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In first round French vote today

PARIS, April 25 (AP) — More than 30 million French voters were expected to cast ballots Sunday in the first round of the presidential election, paring the field of 10 candidates down to two for a final confrontation in two weeks. For the seven men and three women in the race, representing most of the French political spectrum from extreme left to arch-conservative, 55-year-old President Valery Giscard d'Estaing, a self-described centrist, was generally expected to emerge as the top vote-getter.

Under French law if no candidate wins an absolute majority in the first round, the two candidates with the largest number of votes meet in a runoff. With none of the candidates expected to receive much more than a quarter of the votes, a runoff is a virtual certainty. Speculation has centered on who will face Giscard d'Estaing on May 10, in an attempt to deny him a second seven-year term in the Elysee Palace. Socialist Francois Mitterrand, 64, who is making his third bid for the presidency, is widely viewed as the most likely challenger.

But Paris Mayor Jacques Chirac, 48, leader of the Gaullist Party and Giscard d'Estaing's former prime minister, has emerged in recent

weeks as a serious contender. The dynamic mayor's hard-hitting campaign, attacking both the president and Mitterrand, has resulted in impressive gains in recent polls at the expense of Giscard d'Estaing and the Socialist candidate.

Because opinion surveys are prohibited during the final week of the campaign, it was not known whether Chirac had managed to further close the gap between him and Mitterrand — only 2.5 per cent in one late survey. Whatever the outcome, Chirac succeeded in injecting a little excitement into the polls which many observers have described as a dull campaign. It also has raised the possibility that the left, which represents about half of the French electorate, could find itself without a candidate in the second round.

Perhaps the most startling aspect of the campaign, however, has been the dramatic eroding of support for the president, who last fall was expected to have no trouble winning a second term. All of the candidates have been attacking his economic record hard, taking advantage of public disenchantment with unemployment, now standing at 7.5 per cent, and high inflation, which the latest figures put at 12.7 per cent.

Sadat favors NATO

CAIRO, April 25 (AP) — Egyptian President Anwar Sadat says he "personally" favors joining the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, but refrains because others would see it as foreign dominance.

In a wide-ranging interview published in the *October* magazine, the Egyptian leader said the United States has agreed to build military bases for the Egyptian army, and that he had approved stationing an unlimited number of U.S. troops in Egypt.

"Personally I am not at all afraid to join NATO," Sadat said in interview with editor-in-chief Anis Mansour, a close associate. However, Sadat said, "we are sensitive to the permanent presence of American bases on our soil."

Egyptian opposition parties, harkening back to British domination of Egypt in colo-

nial days, have criticized Sadat's offer to military "facilities" to the United States for use in Middle East crises. "Anyway," Sadat said in the interview, "the United States will not touch Egypt's sovereignty, just as it does not affect the government of any other NATO member state." "The United States, for example, has large bases in England, but we do not hear, or read in newspapers, that the United States is occupying England."

Sadat said he had explained this sensitivity to U.S. Secretary of State Alexander M. Haig during his visit here earlier this month. "The United States accepts our point of view completely," he said.

Sadat also said in the interview that he will visit Sudan in May — his first call on an Arab country since signing the peace treaty with Israel 13 months ago.

Talks to focus on trade, Schmidt says

HAMBURG, April 25 (AP) — Chancellor Helmut Schmidt says his upcoming talks with Saudi Arabian leaders will focus on business relations, not arms sales, according to an interview with the Sunday newspaper *Bild am Sonntag*.

Praising the Saudi Arábians for moderation and stability, Schmidt called Saudi Arabia "our most important partner outside Europe and the United States", but said "the question of eventual arms exports to Saudi Arabia is in no way the center point of my visit," according to the interview released Saturday.

Schmidt said he was making the trip "to ensure an important share in the develop-

Causeway contract said awarded

MANAMA, April 25 (AP) — The giant construction company Ballast Nedam of the Netherlands was reliably reported Saturday to have landed the contract for the multi-million dollar Saudi Arabian-Bahrain causeway.

The weekly newspaper *Gulf Mirror* said the "top secret decision" on the contract will not be made public officially until the signing ceremony next month. Saudi Arabia is the sole financier of the vast project, which envisages a 25 kilometer causeway to link Bahrain to mainland Saudi Arabia.

The causeway would be an easy traffic link between the island state of Bahrain and western Europe through the east Mediterranean.

Emergency in Alexandria port as ship burns

CAIRO, April 25 (AP) — A state of emergency was declared in Egypt's Mediterranean port of Alexandria Saturday as firemen battled a huge fire on board a Panamanian flag tanker carrying 3,000 tons of petrochemicals, including eight tons of explosives, police said.

The fire was brought under control after 12

hours, said the police reached by telephone from Cairo. The explosives were detonated, and the port cleared of activity. The police identified the ship as *Eastfloat* and said the fire had started in a berth containing car tires. They said investigations were underway to determine the cause.

The cargo was destined for Egypt's ministry of petroleum, the sources said.

Pentagon to create command for RDF

WASHINGTON, April 25 (AP) — The Pentagon has announced it will create an independent Rapid Deployment Command and officials indicated hopes the United States eventually will be able to station combat troops in the southwest Asia area.

Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger ordered that a current planning task force for projecting U.S. military power into the critical Gulf-Southwest Asia area should evolve over the next three to five years into a separate unified command including army, marine, navy and air force elements.

As a first step in creating this command, Weinberger directed that the 50,000-man army 18th Airborne Corps be assigned to the operational control of Marine Lt. Gen. Paul Kelley, who heads the Rapid Deployment Planning Task Force at MacDill Air Force Base, Tampa, Florida. That corps includes the 82nd Airborne Division at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, the helicopter-borne 101st Airborne Division at Fort Campbell, Kentucky, and support elements at Fort Bragg.

These are the major units capable of fastest reaction by air transport in event of a crisis. Later, defense officials said, other units will be assigned to the Rapid Deployment Organization. Among other things, these officials said Kelley should have operational control over some air force tactical units. For planning purposes, defense officials have been trying to develop a framework for a Rapid Deployment Force in the neighborhood of about 200,000.

The officials, who briefed newsmen under ground rules protecting their anonymity, said it is hoped that a headquarters for the Rapid Deployment Command could be established in or near Southwest Asia, but that for the next several years they expect it to remain at MacDill.

The political sensitive question of stationing U.S. ground troops permanently in the Southwest Asia-Gulf area arose when the defense officials said "we would like to have a commander near his forces."

At the present time the only American military presence in the Indian Ocean-Gulf region is a strong naval force built around two aircraft carrier battle groups. That naval presence has been there since the fall of 1979 because of the Iranian revolution.

The results of the Weinberger decision will be to empower Marine Gen. Kelley to bypass army commands in order to exert his operational control over the U.S. Army 18th Airborne Corps. This would not be the first time that a marine general has in effect commanded army troops. Most recently, it happened in the Vietnam war.

U.K. staff strike to hit airports

LONDON, April 25 (R) — Britain's civil service unions announced plans Saturday to cause widespread disruption at major airports over the next five weeks in support of a 15 per cent pay claim. Some 3,000 air traffic controllers, who voted last week to strike in the deadlocked, seven-week-long dispute, will be involved in the phased plan of action starting Monday morning. Union officials said all air traffic movement within United Kingdom-controlled air space would be stopped during the peak morning period between 0630 GMT and 1300 GMT.

They said 16 airports, including London's Heathrow and Gatwick, would be affected in the campaign. Monday's stoppage would be followed by the withdrawal of air traffic control services at Scotland's Glasgow, Prestwick and Edinburgh airports on Tuesday morning, officials said.

The unions said there would be further disruption at airports controlled by the Civil Aviation Authority Wednesday, Thursday and Friday but did not give details.

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The cargo

Military academy graduates 110 cadets

RIYADH, April 25 (AFP) — Defense and Aviation Minister Prince Sultan attended the graduation ceremony of the 39th class of the King Abdul Aziz Military Academy here Saturday. The 110 graduating officers included five Bahraini nationals.

The ceremony was attended by Interior Minister Prince Naif, Sheikh Ahmad Muhammad Al-Khalifa of Bahrain; Osman Al-Humaid, assistant defense and aviation minister for military affairs; Kamel Sindi, assistant minister for civil aviation; Gen. Muhammad Saleh Al-Hamad, chief of general staff; Gen. Abdullah Al-Sheikh; public security director; and senior military officials.

About 92 per cent of the officers graduated

Islamic seminar begins in UAE

ABU DHABI, April 25 (WAM) — A three-day symposium on how to implement Islamic regulations and Shariah on the national economy was opened here Saturday by United Arab Emirates minister of justice, Islamic affairs and awqaf, Muhammad Abdul Rahman al-Bakr.

The seminar is also being participated by Sheikh Ahmed bin Abdul Aziz Al Mubarak, chief of al-Shariah court, senior UAE officials and more than 20 leading Arab and Islamic scholars.

Bakr, who is also head of the National Committee for Celebrations marking the advent of the 15th Hijra century (Islamic lunar year), said in an opening speech that the aim of the symposium is to lay down the necessary principles to implement a monetary and financial system within the framework of Islamic principles that would also mean a change or development of the present monetary systems.

He added that this would also include the fields of investment and insurance as viewed by Islam. The UAE minister referred to the progress made by a number of Islamic institutions, such as the Islamic bank.

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Riyadh water pact signed for SR52m

RIYADH, April 25 (SPA) — A national company was awarded a contract to build drinking water pipelines in various parts of the city at a cost of SR52 million, officials announced here Sunday. The contract was signed by Agriculture and Water Minister Dr. Abdul Rahman Al-Sheikh.

The project involves the building of 100 kilometers of main and 20 kilometers of subsidiary pipelines, which should be completed within 24 months.

Dr. Al-Sheikh said he is confident of the water supply capacity of the capital, and that there would be no shortage if the consumers used water carefully. The capacity has been raised this year to keep pace with the rising demand.

The capital will get all the water it will need when the pipeline from Jubail, on the Gulf coast, to Riyadh begins to operate within 15 months. The pipeline, which will carry desalinated water was started 18 months ago.

Meanwhile, a contract for the construction of a power generation plant in Rana and 21

surrounding villages was signed here by Dr. Ghazi Al-Gosaibi, minister of industry and electricity for more than SR53 million.

The project consists of a power house with a capacity for 10,000 kilowatts which can rise to 20,000 if needed, plus staff quarters and other related services.

Philippine festival planned

By a Staff Writer

JEDDAH, April 25 — A "Fiesta Filipina" will be opened here Sunday as an exhibition of Filipino products, handicrafts and paintings.

The first Philippine Trade Exhibition in the country, it will be held at the Hyatt Regency hotel in Medina Road. The centerpiece will be a collection of rare shells and 90 paintings by famous artists. Other exhibits will include handcrafted blown glass, garments of Filipino



Abdul Rahman Al-Sheikh

design, interior decoration materials, rattan furniture, toys and wood products. Some of them will be exhibited here for the first time.

The exhibition is sponsored by Mishal Kamal Adham and Khaled Abdul Hadi Taher together with the Philippine Commercial Center to interest the public in the products of the Philippines. Special Filipino cuisine will be served at the hotel Al-Diwani restaurant to the music of a trio of Filipino musicians.

For Riyadh-Dammam

Railway gives freight charges

RIYADH, April 25 (SPA) — Riyadh Road Department announced container fares inclusive of train transportation from Dammam port to the customs depot in Riyadh Saturday.

An independent 20-foot container is estimated to cost SR650, while the 40 feet container costs SR1,300. The fare also includes the empty return cost for the container.

A joint 20-foot container, in which several owners load their goods, costs SR1,500. A joint 40 feet container's fare is SR3,000, it was announced. Importers who wish to have their goods transported to their storehouses within a radius of 25 kilometers from the depot would pay SR200 extra for an independent 20-foot container and SR 400 for a 40 feet container. The transport service, from

the depot to importers' storehouses, does not cover joint containers at the present stage.

The department said in its statement, that the difference of price fares between the independent and joint containers is because of the extra loading, separating and unloading costs. Jointly loaded containers impose additional responsibilities on the depot, the statement said.

Regarding insurance and responsibility, the statement added that all goods are insured and limits of the responsibility vary according to the delivery of the goods. If the goods are CIF (cost, insurance and freight) Dammam the responsibility falls on the shipping agent, but if the goods are CIF Riyadh, then the Rail Road Organization assumes the responsibility.

Commemorative stamps issued

JEDDAH, April 25 — Pakistan has issued two series of postage stamps to commemorate the third Islamic summit conference held in Makkah-Taif earlier this year, a Pakistan embassy statement said Saturday.

The conference, in which Pakistan participated actively, was described as a grand success by President Zia ul-Haq in a press statement later. The first series comprising five stamps of different denominations in three designs, highlights the problem of the Afghan refugees, the embassy reported.

The conference had taken particular note of the Afghanistan question, expressing its concern over continued Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan and renewing its call for withdrawal of foreign troops from this

South Asian Muslim state. It also expressed deep concern over the plight of the Afghan refugees and called for assistance to them and for facilitating their repatriation.

The embassy also said that the second series consists of four stamps in two different designs — highlighting the significance of the summit itself. The summit drew world-wide attention and its success was attributed widely to the wise leadership of King Khaled and Crown Prince Fahd. The conference's singular achievement, according to President Zia ul-Haq, was that it had led Islamic States towards unity among themselves. The stamps are available at all important post offices in Pakistan, the embassy statement added.

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In business and education

Riyadh to host two exhibitions

By a Staff Writer

RIYADH, April 25 — Al-Dhifa Exhibition Center here will hold two exhibitions that have been sold out weeks in advance — Saudi Education '81 and Saudi Business '81.

According to an Al-Dhifa press statement Saturday, 135 companies have purchased space for the Saudi Business exhibition and more than 140 companies from 16 countries are exhibiting in Saudi Education. Both shows will run from April 26 through 30.

Regarding the Saudi Education '81 exhibition, the largest national group is from the United Kingdom where 30 companies are participating, including BBC (educational and training programs), Cassell (visual learning systems), ESA (teaching aids), Harrison Mayer (arts and crafts), Libraco (library systems), Mapboards (white and black-boards), Pel International (educational furniture), TecEquipment (teaching equipment for engineering). Other countries represented



SAUDI EDUCATION '81: Bring classroom supplies to the Kingdom.

Merchants punished for violations

RIYADH, April 25 (SPA) — Interior Minister Prince Naif on Saturday ordered the punishment of four merchants who broke food-supply regulations. The action was ordered after Commerce Minister Dr. Soltan A. Soltan submitted a report on the violations.

The punishment included SR1,000 fines for each of the four merchants for failing to put price tags on merchandise displayed in their shops. The four shopowners, two from Riyadh and two from Abha, were instructed to publish the ruling in a local newspaper at their expense.

Prayer Times

Sunday	Makkah	Medina	Riyadh	Dammam	Buraidah	Tabuk
Fajr (Dawn)	4.28	4.26	3.57	3.41	4.06	4.33
Dhuhr (Noon)	12.19	12.19	11.51	11.37	12.02	12.32
Asr (Evening)	3.41	3.47	3.19	3.08	3.33	4.06
Maghreb (Sunset)	6.45	6.49	6.21	6.10	6.34	7.07
Isha (Night)	8.15	8.19	7.51	7.40	8.04	8.37

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arab news Local

Hasa Region emphasized

Provincial system in final stages--Naif

RIYADH, April 25 (SPA) — Interior Minister Prince Naif said Saturday that the provincial system is in its final drafting stages; and that the Hasa Region will have an important part in the system. He said King Khalid and Crown Prince Fahd are giving Hasa Region special attention.

A committee has been formed under the interior minister, comprising several ministers, to study the region's requirements for projects. Prince Naif expressed the hope that the new provincial system would stimulate the public's interest.

Regarding security cooperation among Gulf states, especially after the establishment of the Gulf cooperation Council, Prince Naif said there had been comprehensive security coordination among these states even before the formation of the council and this coordination still exists.

In a separate development, Bangladeshi Interior Minister Mustafizur Rahman said Saturday his country welcomed the creation of the Gulf Cooperation Council and described the move as an "excellent one."

Welfare visit underway

London, April 25 (SPA) — Asir Governor Prince Khaled Al-Faisal arrived here Thursday on a few day visit to Britain. The prince, who is also director general of King Faisal Philanthropic Foundation, will hold talks with Foreign Minister Lord Carrington.

During the visit, Prince Khaled will visit tourist sites, a number of modern villages and welfare organizations. He is accompanied by Abdul Aziz Aba Al-Kheil, assistant under-secretary for the interior, Wadi Al-Johar, the prince's office director, and Muhammad Al-Abdullah Al-Dayel, secretary of King Faisal Foundation.

In an interview with Okaz, Mustafizur Rahman said that relations between his country and the Kingdom are getting stronger day after day. He added that his talks with his counterpart, Prince Naif, concentrated on the most significant cooperation field between the two countries, which is labor.

Bangladesh is prepared to meet the Kingdom's needs for unskilled, semi-skilled and skilled workers, Mustafizur Rahman said. Prince Naif welcomed cooperation between the two countries in this field, the official said. He said he expected that Prince Naif would

visit Bangladesh by the end of this year to acquaint himself to Bangladesh as an Islamic country and its potential.

Mustafizur Rahman left the Kingdom Wednesday, concluding a five-day visit, during which he performed the umra and held talks with senior officials.

Meanwhile, Deputy Interior Minister Prince Ahmad arrived in Abu Dhabi Saturday on a five-day official visit to the UAE. He was invited by UAE Interior Minister Sheikh Mubarak ibn Muhammad Al-Nahyan.



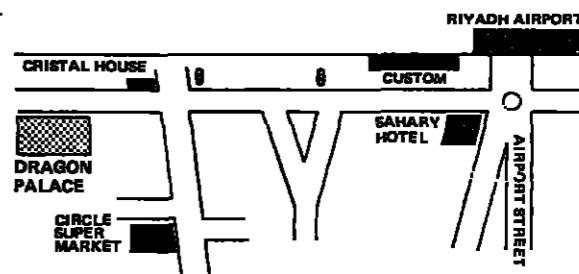
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U.S. conference on Jerusalem urged

FEZ, Morocco, April 25 (AP) — The Islamic Committee on Jerusalem wound up a two-day closed conference late Friday with the adoption of several resolutions to try to isolate Israel and gain support for the Palestine Liberation Organization.

The committee also asked the Organization of Islamic Conference (OIC) to organize in the coming months an international conference on Jerusalem in Washington to try to sway American opinion in favor of an Israeli withdrawal from the city.

The committee, presided over by Morocco's King Hassan II, decided to con-

tinue its diplomatic campaign in western Europe, Japan, Canada, Australia and the United States to try to persuade them to recognize the PLO and to put pressure on Israel to liberate Jerusalem and the Arab territories occupied during the 1967 war.

The committee also called on all Islamic countries to use all means at their disposition to pressure the West into suspending bilateral and multi-lateral agreements with Israel.

Finally, it called on the Islamic states to contribute \$50 million to a Jerusalem fund to finance "the Palestinian struggle against Israel."

The committee, presided over by Morocco's King Hassan II, decided to con-

Klaauw holds talks in Cairo

CAIRO, April 25 (AP) — Dutch Foreign Minister Christopher van der Klaauw arrived here Friday on the last leg of a Mideast tour aimed at exploring chances for a European initiative to stimulate the stalled Mideast

Responsibility claimed for bombing in Israel

DAMASCUS, April 25 (R) — A Palestinian commando organization claimed responsibility Friday night for a time bomb explosion in Jerusalem earlier in the day.

The Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP) said one of its units planted the bomb near the Jerusalem municipality. It said the explosion killed or wounded several Israelis. The commandos returned safely to base, the DFLP added.

In Jerusalem a police spokesman said a time bomb exploded outside the Jerusalem municipality, seriously injuring an Arab passer-by.

peace process, the Middle East News Agency reported.

Klaauw, chairman of the European Economic Community's council, met President Anwar Sadat and other Egyptian officials and discussed proposals for peace, the agency added. In a statement to the agency, Klaauw said he came to the area hoping to find out "the elements that could help push ahead the peace efforts."

He endorsed a Sadat proposal calling on Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) to mutually exchange each other and described the proposed step as "vital" for achieving progress, the agency added. Klaauw said he discussed the proposal with Arafat and other PLO officials.

The EEC peace initiative calls for associating the PLO in any overall Mideast settlement, a proposal rejected by Israel and the United States, which is sponsoring the Palestine autonomy talks between Egypt and Israel, stalled since last August.

U.S. breaks hostage pact, says Iran

NEWARK, April 25 (AP) — Lawyer for the Iranian government said Friday the United States is violating the agreement on the return of 52 American hostages and on procedures for the filing of American commercial claims against Iran.

Thomas G. Shack, a Washington attorney who has represented Iran since the revolution that brought Ayatollah Khomeini to power said, "Iran has been a model of forbearance and patience" in dealing with America about the claims. Shack said the United States has refused to immediately transfer Iranian assets and has not provided any information on the late Shah Muhammad Reza Pahlavi's assets in America, as called for in the agree-

ment. He also said the United States has refused to require the termination of all litigation by all U.S. companies with grievances against Iran and has refunded the purchase price of military equipment ordered by the late Shah instead of providing the arms.

"I don't want to appear contentious, but Iran feels it has fulfilled its commitment while the United States has not," Shack said at a conference sponsored by the Rutgers University Graduate School of Management on negotiating the settlement of American claims against Iran. The meeting was attended primarily by attorneys representing companies with claims against Iran.

Thatcher concludes tour of India, Gulf states

DOHA, April 25 (Agencies) — British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher Saturday left here after a 48-hour visit — the last leg of her tour of India and the Gulf region.

Mrs. Thatcher was seen off at the airport by Qatar's Crown Prince and Defense Minister, Sheikh Hamad bin Khalif al Thani.

During the visit the British prime minister met with the ruler of Qatar, Sheikh Khalifa bin Hamad al Thani, on bilateral cooperation and on international developments.

The two heads of state discussed cooperation between Qatar and Britain and ways to consolidate and develop this cooperation. They also discussed international issues of common interest, the Palestinian problem and the situation in the Gulf region, according to the official news agency.

Mrs. Thatcher arrived in Qatar Friday from Oman. She also visited India, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.

Mrs. Thatcher ended her tour convinced of the overriding importance the Gulf states attach to solving the Palestinian problem, diplomats said in London.

She said on Oman Friday that European moves on the problem could not be divorced from U.S. moves. Britain takes over presidency of the EEC later this year and she came under pressure this week from Gulf states to arrange an early settlement of the Palestinian question, the diplomats said.

PIA plane hijackers reach Kabul

NEW DELHI, April 25 (AFP) — Three Pakistanis who hijacked a Pakistani plane last month and successfully achieved the release of 52 political prisoners, have reached Kabul aboard a Syrian aircraft after spending several hours at Delhi airport April 20, the English daily *Hindustan Times*, reported Saturday.

The newspaper said the sudden arrival of the hijackers, led by Salamullah Khan Tippu, along with 25 of the political prisoners, was kept secret by airport authorities to avoid "any diplomatic embarrassment" in Indo-Pakistan relations. The authorities made frantic appeals to the Kabul authorities to accept the Syrian aircraft with its passengers and the flight took off for Kabul the same evening.

The paper said that at first the hijackers had insisted on staying on in India while the Indian government tried without success to get "some other countries" to accept them.

BRIEFS

DENVER, (AFP) — A former "Green Beret" commando suspected of trying to kill a Libyan student in Colorado, and of hiring himself out to Libya, has been arrested in the neighboring U.S. state of New Mexico.

MOSCOW, (AP) — Afghan Foreign Minister Shah Muhammad Dost left for home Saturday after official visits to Moscow and Prague, the official Soviet news agency Tass reported.

MOSCOW, (AP) — Soviet scientists left for Afghanistan Saturday to fight a potential

infestation of locusts in the southern part of the central Asian nation, Tass reported.

ANKARA, (AP) — The Turkish government will adopt a wait-and-see attitude toward anti-Turkish activity by American groups in Greece, a Turkish foreign ministry spokesman said Friday.

ISTANBUL, (AP) — Police arrested five suspected Kurdish militants and seized copies of banned Kurdish periodicals in the southern city of Adana and in Istanbul, police said Friday.

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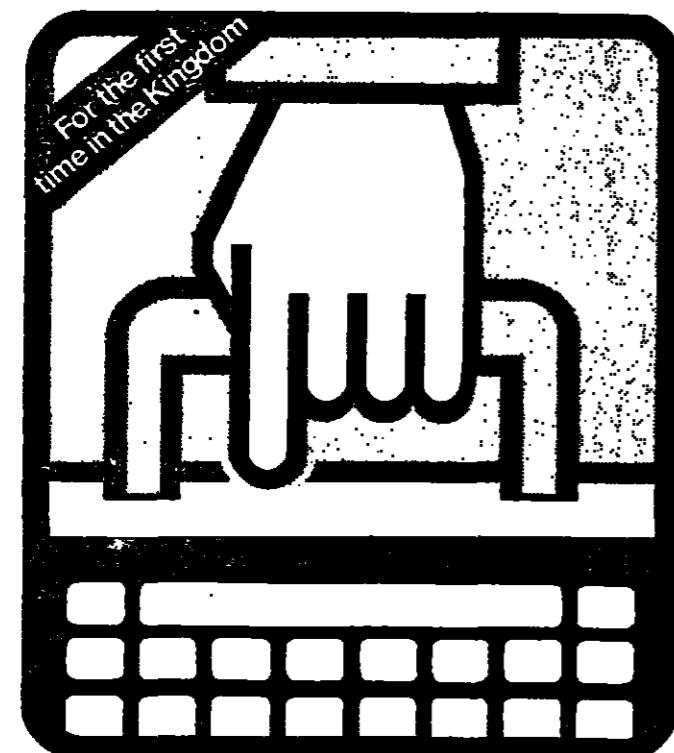
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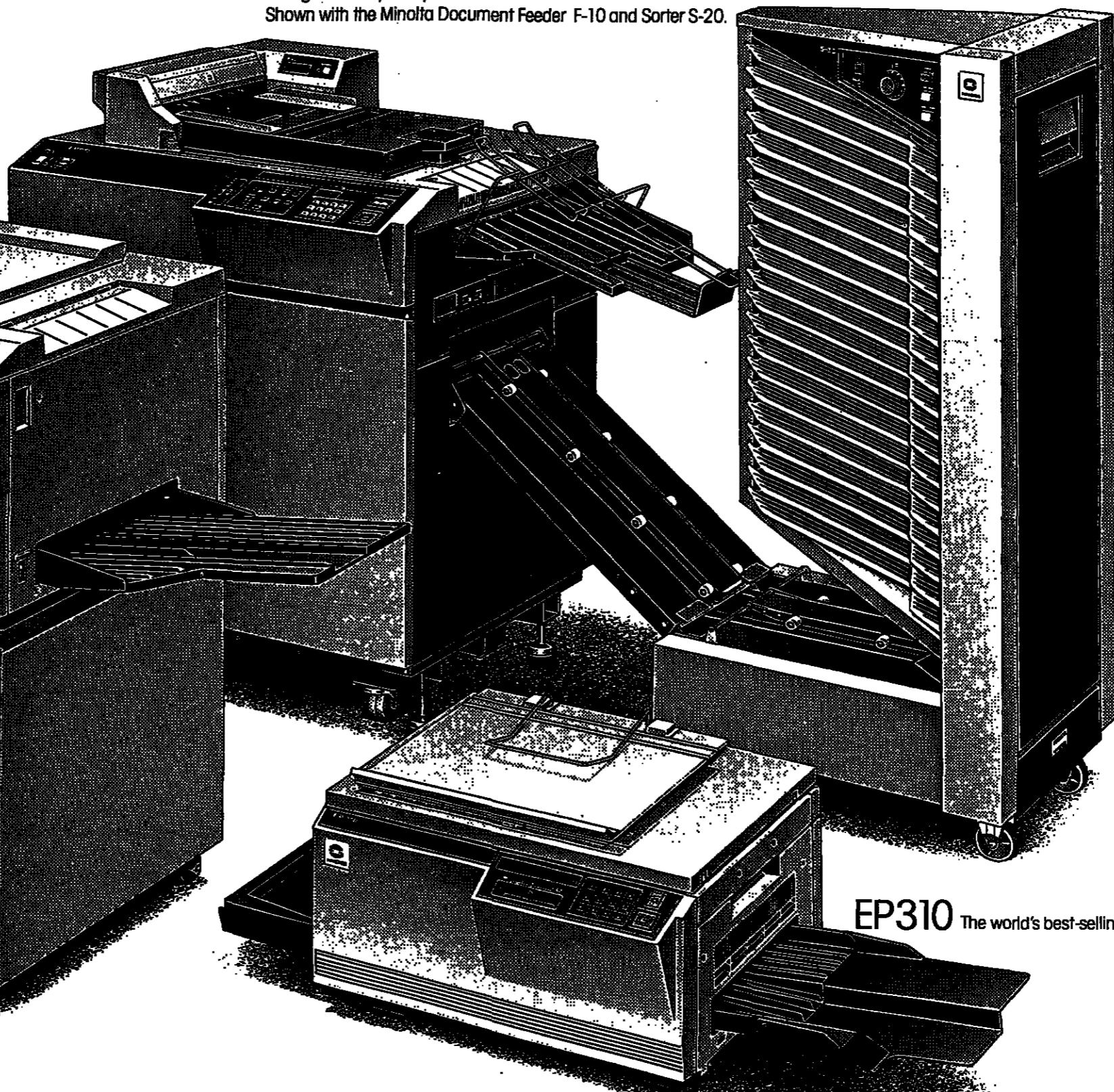
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U.S. INDECISION

Britain and West Germany are conferring diligently over some issues facing the Western Alliance. They are doing so as a result of a general feeling of America's irresolution over the required talks with the Soviet Union on the deployment of medium range missiles in Eastern and Western Europe.

Washington has indeed been giving contradictory signs on this as well as other issues. The defense secretary gives a view only to be contradicted by another from the state secretary. The White House itself seems either incapable or unwilling to give decisive support to one or the other.

In any case the Europeans want their view heard as the two superpowers sit and try to work out a deal. The question of rocket deployment affects them directly both politically and economically. They will therefore use America's apparent indecision to maximum advantage.

The other issue which the Europeans allies want the Americans to clarify is that of the Middle East and the Gulf. Here also the noises issuing from Washington are still contradictory, although the proposed sale of the AWACS does signify that a coherent line is at last emerging.

There is an irony of course in the Europeans demanding a clearer lead from Washington. For Europe looked at the election of President Reagan with some worry, as signifying a hardening in America's position. As it turned out, the U.S. administration, through its less than sure touch, is allowing the Europeans more leeway than they thought possible.

Saudi Arabian Press Review

A majority of newspapers Saturday led with a warning by Minister of Petroleum and Mineral Resources Sheikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani that Israel is responsible for Communist infiltration into the region. The minister, who was addressing nearly 1000 persons Thursday at a luncheon by The Foreign Policy Association in New York, was reported as saying that, "America's stance on the Arab-Israeli conflict has influenced relations." He also warned that America's blind support for Israel would explode the situation in the Middle East. Meanwhile, Al-Riyadh reported in a lead story that there was an Israeli troop concentration in South Lebanon. Al-Bilad carried as a prominent lead story West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt's official visit to Saudi Arabia, which begins Monday.

Newspapers frontpaged Deputy Interior Minister Prince Ahmed's visit to the United Arab Emirates and Minister of Defense and Aviation Prince Sultan's attendance at the 39th graduation ceremony at the King Abdul Aziz War Academy in Riyadh on Saturday.

In a prominent page one story, newspapers reported that the Zionists have committed a fresh assault on the Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem. A gang of Zionist terrorists, they said, entered the mosque and offered "prayers," defying Arab and Muslim sentiments toward the third holiest place after the Holy Harams of Makkah and Medina.

Newspaper editorials covered a variety of subjects ranging from Chancellor Helmut Schmidt's visit, the deliberations of the Jerusalem Committee

in Fez and the Lebanese situation in the wake of Israeli attacks. Al-Bilad commented editorially on the German chancellor's visit to Saudi Arabia, saying it is a basic step toward strengthening bilateral relations in different fields. The Kingdom has always striven to give a distinguished character to its ties with Europe and has, therefore, played a tangible role in acquainting European public opinion with the reality of the issues in this region, the paper said. It added that, after Britain's understanding and appreciation of the issues of the region, West Germany may also hopefully, explain the realities of the region's crucial issues to the world.

In an editorial on the deliberations of the Jerusalem Committee in Fez, Morocco, Al-Medina noted that the committee is faced with serious challenges being posed by the Zionist atrocities in occupied Palestine, especially in Jerusalem. The paper hoped that members of the committee would strive to convince the world of the justness of the Arab and Islamic issue and to advise the Islamic world to develop its energies to be able to restore the usurped rights of the Palestinians.

Al-Jazirah editorially blamed Israel for the happenings in Lebanon and said that Israel would not stop creating tension in Lebanon as long as the Palestinian forces in Lebanon continue to resist the occupation of their land by the Israelis. Israel's direct responsibility becomes even more clear after observing Begin's claims that Israel and the militia of secessionist Saad Haddad would protect the international emergency force in South Lebanon.

The paper added that protection of the emergency force would never mean the protection of Lebanon, its people and the legitimate authority in the country. If Israel succeeds in its maneuvers, it will then have no obstacle against the implementation of its plans in Lebanon, said the paper.

On the same subject, Al-Riyadh observed that the Israeli troop concentration aims at dragging Syria and the Palestinian resistance into the barbed arena. It did not rule out the possibility of a large-scale aggression on Lebanon before the Lebanese government is able to make any tangible headway in its efforts toward the normalization of the situation.

Al-Yam dealt with Sheikh Yamani's address to the Foreign Policy Association in New York, in which he warned against the danger of Soviet infiltration into the Arab world because of Israel. The paper said that, if America continues to support Israel blindly, Moscow would find an opportunity to exploit the situation. It would increase its support for Arab rights, while suggesting that the U.S. does not want Arab and Muslim rights restored in Palestine, the paper said. It added that cooperation between Saudi Arabia and the U.S. will grow without limits if the U.S. exerts a serious and effective effort in bringing about a just peace in the Middle East.

Al-Nadwa also discussed the same subject, endorsing Sheikh Yamani's views that the U.S. would only serve the Russian interest in this region if it hesitated in carrying out its responsibility toward the Middle East because of domestic political pressures.

Afghan resistance to Soviet presence solid

By Granville Watts

NEW DELHI — The Moscow-backed government in Afghanistan marks three years of Marxist rule on Monday with Muslim freedom fighters as determined as ever to fight the Soviet military presence there. President Babrak Karmal's government is going ahead with preparations in Kabul to observe the occasion. But an alert has been ordered for security forces in case of Muslim fighters' attacks, according to Western diplomats here.

Shootings in Kabul are reported daily and the fighters may try to disrupt ceremonies marking the anniversary of the Saur (April) revolution in 1978 which overthrew Afghanistan's first president, Muhammad Daoud, and established Marxist rule. Karmal, brought to power 16 months ago by the Soviet military intervention, has failed to suppress the freedom fighters despite the presence of an estimated 85,000 Soviet troops. The U.S. State Department and Western diplomats report the fighters are better armed and better able to confront the Soviet troops than they were a year ago.

Reports of the fighting say it is at a high level throughout most of Afghanistan and is intense in the Kandahar region in the south, along the northern border with the Soviet Union, and in the northwest corner near Herat.

The fighters have until now relied mainly on anti-quated rifles and Soviet-made Kalashnikov automatic weapons captured from Russian and Afghan troops. But there are increasing reports of the use of anti-aircraft weapons and rocket launchers against tanks and helicopters.

The Soviet Communist Party newspaper *Pravda* said recently, the Afghan fighters were using a new type of land mine to harass Afghan military convoys near the Pakistan border. *Pravda* said the ceaseless mine was impossible to trace with conventional mine detectors. The fighters were blowing up bridges, blocking roads and sniping at Afghan convoys in the Kunar region, near the Khyber Pass.

Many weapons are brought to the fighters by officers and men defecting from the Afghan army which was 80,000-strong at the time of the Soviet intervention.

The official Kabul radio recently issued a report indicating the tribally based fighters were having greater success in penetrating Kabul. The radio said on April 20 that security forces had seized arms of Chinese and Egyptian origin at caches in the city. A Kabul-based Western diplomat said about 25 percent of official cars seen in the capital had bullet holes. An average of a dozen people — most of them Afghan party officials — were killed there each week.

Karmal's government now relies on thousands of Soviet advisers and diplomats say about 30 Soviet professors and teachers are now at Kabul University as part of growing Soviet influence in Afghanistan. According to an official account by Kabul radio, 3,000 Afghans would be sent to the Soviet Union for training in various fields.

Karmal said last November that 80 per cent of Afghanistan's aid now came from the Soviet Union.

The Soviet Union has put \$576 million at Afghanistan's disposal for financing development projects, mainly in agriculture and the gas industry, it has been officially announced.

Soviet sources say industrial enterprises built with Soviet aid account for more than one-third of production in Afghanistan, and Soviet-built power stations for nearly two-thirds of all power generated.

Afghanistan expects to earn more than \$300 million from natural gas exports to the Soviet Union in the current financial year which started last month, the Press Trust of India (PTI) reported on April 17 quoting an official announcement in Kabul. Under a new agreement signed recently, the Soviet Union has offered to help Afghanistan in natural gas exploration, oil refining, geological surveys, iron and copper mining and housing construction.

Infighting continues between the rural-based Khalq faction and Karmal's Parcham (flag) group of the ruling People's Democratic Party (PDP).

Karmal has said Afghanistan was willing to meet neighboring Pakistan and Iran to solve their differences with Kabul. He has refused Pakistan's efforts, however, to place such talks under U.N. auspices. His government insists on separate bilateral talks with Pakistan and Iran and restricting the U.N. role to that of observer status.

Iran, which like Pakistan refuses to recognize the Kabul government while Soviet troops remain in Afghanistan, has rejected any talks with Kabul until the Russians go. It has also demanded that negotiations on Afghanistan include the Muslim fighters at war with Karmal's government.

A U.N. peace initiative on Afghanistan is still in progress. U.N. special envoy Javier Perez de Cuellar held talks in Kabul and Islamabad recently and is reporting back to U.N. Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim. (R)

Turkey begins mass trials of extremists

By Kenneth Mackenzie

ANKARA —

Turkey is riveted by a series of mass trials of extremists who, with their accomplices, are blamed for the murder of 5,000 people in two years. The prosecutors have been ponderously slow preparing their files. Only now, seven months after the military takeover, are the trials beginning.

The most important is already under way. At a court in Diyarbakir, southeastern Turkey, 447 alleged members of a Kurdish secessionist organization known as Apocular face the military judges. Ninety-seven are on capital charges but whether they will be executed, if convicted, is uncertain. So far only four terrorists — two rightists and two leftists — have paid the full penalty. All four were regarded by the public as notorious political gangsters.

Apocular is alleged to have had links with terrorist groups and to have killed about 250 persons in the southeastern provinces. The organization derives its name from a militant Kurdish leader of the 1970, Abdullah Ocalan, popularly known in the region as Apo. He escaped to Europe a few years ago and is being hunted by Turkish intelligence.

The military regime will have to weigh up carefully the possible consequences of their crackdown, especially in the turbulent Kurdish regions. The aim is to restore stability but the danger is that severe sentences may provoke a backlash. For this reason, observers speculate that although many death sentences may be pronounced, few will be carried out.

The regime is also preparing for a mass trial of perhaps several hundred people allegedly involved in right-wing terrorism. It is being studiously impartial in cracking down equally on both the Left and Right. The pending trials of some of the top politicians attract the greatest interest. Before the end of the month, Necmettin Erbakan, leader of the Islamic fundamentalist National Salvation Party, is due to appear in court with the executive members of his party.

Most are expected to get heavy prison sentences for conspiring to set up an Islamic state contrary to the tenets of modern Turkey's founder, Kemal Ataturk.

After the Erbakan trial — or possibly at the same time — former colonel Alparslan Turkes, leader of the extreme right-wing National Action Party, will appear before a tribunal. He and 15 of his party deputies face charges of involvement in the right-wing terrorism perpetrated by the party's youth organization.

Meanwhile, the country's two most eminent political leaders, Suleyman Demirel and Bulent Ecevit remain muted by military restrictions, although Ecevit recently criticized the military regime in his weekly magazine, Arayis. He has now been refused permission to attend the Socialist International in Amsterdam at the end of this month.

Both Demirel and Ecevit are known to be chafing under the restrictions, but many independent observers would argue that they brought their plight on their own heads.

The ruling generals hope and believe that a new breed of politicians can emerge, untainted by involvement in the murky activities of the past. But where can such men be found? Perhaps the future of Turkey will become clearer next month, when the nation marks the centenary of the birth of Ataturk. The occasion could be used by the generals to reveal a little more of their plans. (ONS)

Sudan's new oil wealth stirs row

By Alastair Matheson

KHARTOUM — Sudan's newly discovered oil wealth has triggered off a series of quarrels between nationalistic Southerners and the central government. The latest argument is over the choice of Kosti, a Nile river port in Northern Sudan, as the site for refining the oil. There have also been disputes over whether the oil is found in the South or the North.

Chevron, the American oil company, has spent \$200 million on sinking 20 wells. Although the company has a concession extending over half-a-million square miles in Africa's largest country, the oil wells which have been proved are all located fairly close to the boundary between the two parts of the country.

The first successful strikes, in the semi-arid country around Muglad, were indisputably north of the border in South Kordofan Province. More recent strikes, however, which have proved more successful, virtually straddle the border to the northeast of the Upper Nile town of Bentiu.

There have been some accusations in the Southern Sudan that errors in a recent official map showing the new regional boundaries were not errors at all but an attempt to redraw the boundary so that most of the oil wells would be in Northern Sudan. In spite of government denials, many Southerners remain strongly suspicious about recent developments, fearing that the central authorities intend to leave the impoverished South with little benefit from the oil industry and government departments.

A leading Southern politician, Boma Malwal, who heads the industry ministry in Southern Sudan, says: "If you like, take it that Unity is in the South and the others are the North." Malwal, who supports the government's decision to site the new refinery at Kosti, said in a recent interview: "Since most of the oil which will eventually reach Kosti will most probably come from the South, one can understand why Southerners complain."

The refinery will have a maximum output of 10,000 barrels a day when it comes on stream in 1983. Together with a 350-mile pipeline from the oil fields to Kosti it will cost just over \$200 million.

Chevron will supervise its construction by the Bechtel Corporation, and finance is being sought from the World Bank and affiliates. The refinery will meet most of Sudan's present needs, certainly in gasoline, diesel and jet fuels. This will mean a great saving in the cost of importing fuel, which at present swallows up two-thirds of Sudan's foreign exchange earnings.





HOT FAVORITES: Seychelles, a group of islands, lies in the midst of the Indian Ocean. Of late, the islands have become hot favorites of holidaymakers. Seen above are some of scenes on the islands.

Seychelles: A holiday resort

By Raana Siddiqi

JEDDAH — A group of islands called Seychelles, situated in the midst of the Indian Ocean, have become a popular holiday resort for the holidaymakers from the Kingdom. The weekly direct flights from Jeddah, since last November by Air France have made them easily accessible.

The islands were first discovered by the Portuguese sailors. Inspired by their natural beauty and variety of birdlife, they thought they had actually reached the Garden of Eden. However, it were the French who first established a colony on the island and later became an object of Anglo-French rivalry. Eventually the British gained control of it in 1814. It was a British dependency until 1903, when it was made a seaport. The Seychelles became independent in 1976.

The Anglo-French heritage is still evident in the social and cultural life of the islands. Although the islands are spread over 388,000 square kilometers, the total land area is only

444-square kilometers. Mahe, Praslin, La Digue and Silhouette are the better known islands but it is Mahe which offers most of the services to the tourists.

The climate is tropical with an average mean temperature year-round of 25°, — ideal to attract tourists in search of sandy-beaches, basking sun and solitude. The islands have plenty of attractions and offer all the amenities of a tourist resort. Apart from charm and beauty of the islands, recreational facilities and entertainment are also available.

Organized and private tours by bus, boat and airplane, both within the Mahe and to the other islands, are some of the other tourist attractions. For the sports enthusiasts, fishing, snorkeling and deep-sea diving are some of the attractions.

The Seychelles have grown popular with the tourists from Britain, Germany and Italy. The recently introduced weekly non-stop flight from Jeddah offers several package tours to the individual or the group holiday makers for the coming holiday season.



VARIETY: The islands offer a variety of accommodation. Seen above is beach cottages set in natural surroundings. At top, a tourist enjoying windsurfing.



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Defense contributions

Secret U.S. report criticizes Japanese

WASHINGTON, April 25 (R) — A confidential Reagan administration report on allied defense contributions strongly criticizes Japan while giving high marks to France and passing grades to Britain and West Germany, officials have said.

2 major solar flares spotted

BOULDER, Colorado, April 25 (AP) — Two major solar flares from an active sunspot region will produce "significant" radio interference on earth, the National Oceanic and Atmosphere Administration has said. Forecaster Joseph Hirman said the larger of the two flares began at 1343 GMT Friday morning. An earlier flare, which occurred at 0100 GMT Friday, was only one-fifth as strong.

Forecasters at the joint NOAA-Air Force Space Environment Services Center here began detecting particles just two hours after Friday morning's flare, Hirman said, indicating "a lot of acceleration in the particles — they traveled 93 million miles (from the sun) in just a couple of hours."

Hirman said Friday's flare caused "significant shortwave fade on high-frequency radio communications," adding that the flare contained "very strong radio-frequency emission at all wavelengths."

This suggests, he said, that interference is possible with normally static-free, very-high-frequency wavelengths used for air navigation and communications. The energy shower from Friday's flare should trigger a disturbance in the earth's magnetic field by Sunday, Hirman said.

Pentagon officials said the study, requested by Congress last year, spells out the new administration's view that the North Atlantic Treaty Organization's (NATO) goal of a three per cent yearly increase in military spending is too rigid. NATO governments adopted the figure in 1978, but alliance members have had only mixed success in meeting it to date and several are likely to fall well short this year and next.

Disputes over the target figure have been divisive and harmful to the alliance, the report says, adding that what really matters is a "mutually agreed, coherent effort to combat the Soviet challenge." Nevertheless the report says several allies, including Canada, Denmark and above all Japan — a major U.S. ally although not a member of NATO — are doing far less than their economies could afford.

U.S. officials said the increase planned by Japan this year not only fell short of NATO's spending goal but was nowhere near what Japanese officials all but promised last year. Japan's defense effort looks even worse in terms of its enormous productivity, they added.

France, not a member of NATO's military arm, got top marks in the administration study, as did the Netherlands, despite The Hague's refusal to say whether it will accept new NATO nuclear missiles on Dutch soil. The report says that Britain has been contributing its fair share, although that conclusion was reached before last week's British defense paper, raising questions about its commitment to future military spending.

The report, now in the State Department for comments before it goes to Congress, says West Germany, Italy, Belgium and Norway fell somewhat short of an equitable NATO contribution. It adds that all the allies must do more to defend strategic Western interests and meet the Soviet threat elsewhere, above all in the Third World and the Gulf.

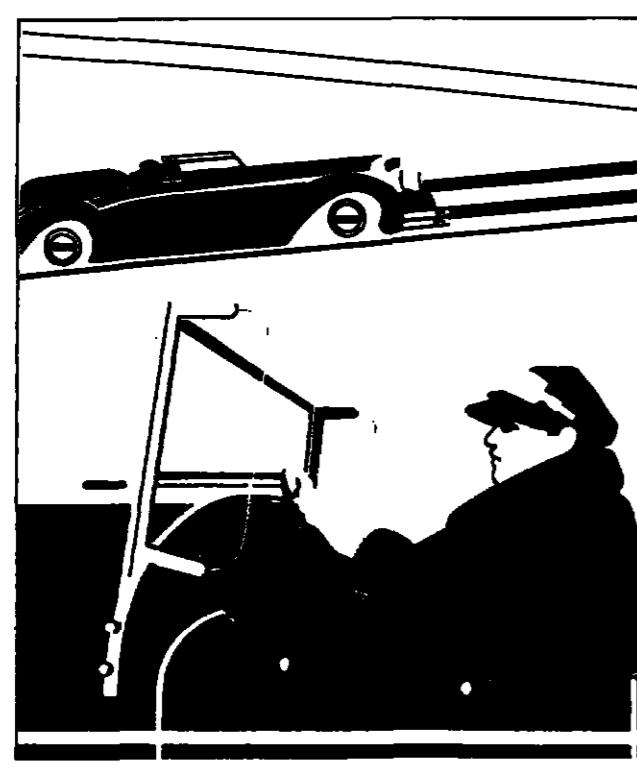
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Without opponent

Marcos launches campaign

MANILA, April 25 (AP) — Philippine President Ferdinand E. Marcos accepted his party's nomination for six more years in office Saturday, but began his campaign without an opponent. He immediately stepped out of the ornate Manila Hotel to open the first Philippine presidential campaign in 12 years before a chanting crowd estimated by police at 100,000.

More than 3,000 delegates in formal attire packed the hotel ballroom convention of the Kilusang Bagong Lipunan (new society movement). Outside, hundreds of drum-beating young men in loincloths, cheerleaders, with bullhorns shouting "we're for Marcos" and popular movie comedians and recording stars held the crowd for more than six hours. And finally, as she did on Marcos, two previous campaigns in 1965 and 1969, first lady Imelda Marcos sang a Philippine love song for the out door throng.

Mrs. Marcos interviewed on national television, called a decision by opposition leaders to boycott the election "sad" and "childish." An alliance of opposition groups took much of the life out of the Marcos nomination by announcing Friday they would not field a candidate. One party official said the group would spend about 10 million pesos (\$1.3 million) campaigning for a boycott. The groups called the June 16 election "another fraudulent device designed to legitimize and perpetuate the dictatorial rule of Marcos."

Marcos, speaking partly in the national

language, Tagalog, and partly in English, pledged a continuation of his "new society" policies. "Let history bypass those who will not participate in the democratic processes of our country," he said, calling his opponents "merchants and prophets of doom."

Some opposition leaders have predicted a resumption of terrorist acts if Marcos continues to rule. A series of bombings hit Manila last year, and terrorist attacks continue on the southern island of Mindanao where 16 persons were killed in a church bombing last Sunday.

TAIPEI April 25 (CNA) — Free China Relief Association (FCRA) helped resettle 169,883 refugees from mainland China in the past three decades, according to an FCRA report. Last year, the mainland refugees who were settled in the Republic of China numbered 1,566.

In the past three years, FCRA had helped find temporary settlement for 1,524 Indochinese refugees. They came — mostly by sea — in 28 groups. Of the total, 1,351 went to the United States, Canada and other countries, while the rest are still at a refugee camp at Penghu.

FCRA has also despatched 15,482 tons of rice to various refugee camps in Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, and Thailand either directly or through the assistance of the

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Biggs kidnapping helps boost autobiography sale

LONDON, April 25 (AP) — When newspapers around the world reported the kidnapping of "great train robber" Ronald Biggs, skeptics thought it was merely a publicity stunt to stimulate sales of his autobiography coming out the same month. *Ronald Biggs, My Own Story*, was published in London March 30, just 14 days after Biggs was kidnapped from a seafort in Rio de Janeiro and spirited away to Barbados on a yacht.

"The timing was impeccable," although the kidnapping was coincidental to publication, a spokeswoman for the paperback publishers, Sphere Books Ltd., said Friday. She said 100,000 paperback copies were printed and sold at 1.50 pounds (\$3.30) each. A reprint of 40,000 copies will be shipped to bookstores soon, she said.

Hard-cover sales, however, are "not going spectacularly well," said a spokesman for Michael Joseph Publishers. He said about 3,000 copies were published in hard cover and the "inconsequential" number of copies that have sold at 7.95 pounds (\$17.49) went mainly to libraries and other institutions.

The publishers declined to say what percentage, if any, of the sales Biggs would receive. The Michael Joseph spokesman said royalties were being paid to Biggs' London agent with the understanding that all proceeds would go to the fugitive's three children. Biggs, 51, has two teen-age sons by his English-born first wife, Charmain Brent, now an Australian and a six-year-old son by his Brazilian girlfriend, Raimunda Rothen de Castro. "There was a moral question we couldn't avoid," the Michael Joseph spokesman said. "We'd rather not pay a convicted felon."

Taipei agency helps resettle refugees

International Red Cross, the report said.

Altogether 10,125 Indochinese refugees have been settled in Taiwan through the help of the association. FCRA provided vocational training to young refugees and assistance to the old ones. Some refugees entered schools through the FCRA's assistance.

Last year, the association also helped 1,221 refugees from Hong Kong, Burma, Thailand, India, the Middle East and the Near East settle in the Republic of China.

The association also sent relief goods, including sweaters, canned foods, sugar, pants, towels, medicines and underwear to mainland China last year. They were sent in 26 provinces on the mainland, the report said.

Biggs returned to Brazil, his home for 11 years, after a Barbados high court ruled Thursday against Britain's attempt to extradite him. He escaped from a London jail after serving two years of a 30-year term for his part in the 1963 great train robbery that netted 2.63 million pounds (then \$7.2 million).

Before the train robbery, Biggs was a carpenter in South London. He became a member of the 15-man gang of bandits after telephoning one of them about raising a 400-pound (\$960) deposit on a house. Biggs' reported share of the train robbery was 748,000 pounds (\$325,000). But it has been estimated that he has made twice that amount from newspaper and magazine publications of his exploits. He is the only one of the 11 men convicted of the train robbery who has not completed his prison term or been released. Three of the robbers were never caught.

Agnew admits taking payoffs, lawyer testifies

ANNAPOLIS, Maryland, April 25 (AP) — Spiro T. Agnew admitted while U.S. vice president in 1973 that he had accepted kickbacks (illegal payments) from consultants and expressed concern that the situation might unravel and lead back to him, his former attorney has testified.

George White Jr., the lawyer, said Friday that when he went to Agnew and confronted him with charges that he had taken payoffs while he was governor of Maryland, Agnew replied: "It's been going on for a thousand years."

White said Agnew disputed the amount of money one engineer claimed to have paid him but made no attempt to refute basic charges that he had taken payoffs from consultants. White's testimony came as the state completed its case in a civil suit in which taxpayers are seeking to force Agnew to repay \$177,500 he allegedly received in kickbacks while governing Maryland in 1967 and 1968, plus \$120,610 in interest.

Closing arguments were scheduled for Monday. Agnew, who is not expected to appear in court, has denied taking kickbacks. White said he flew to California in February 1973 to talk to his longtime friend and legal client about eight months before Agnew resigned as Richard Nixon's vice president and pleaded no contest to a single federal charge of income tax evasion.

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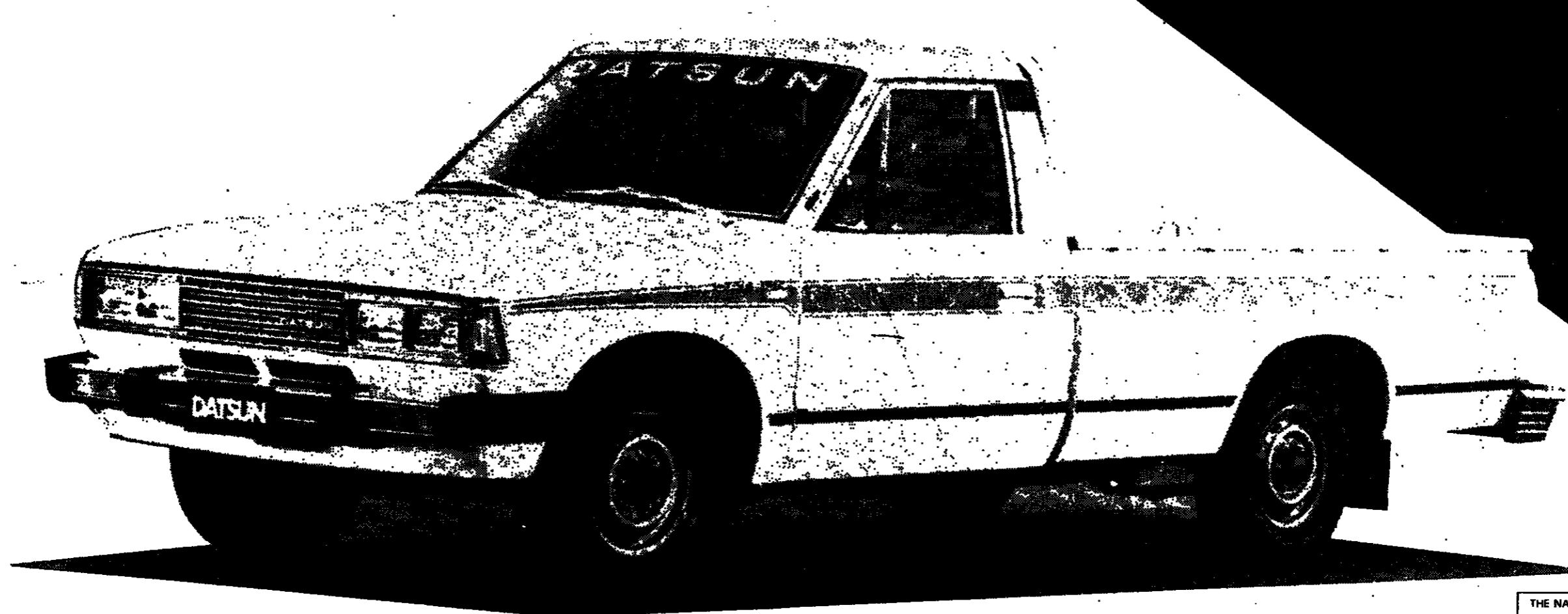
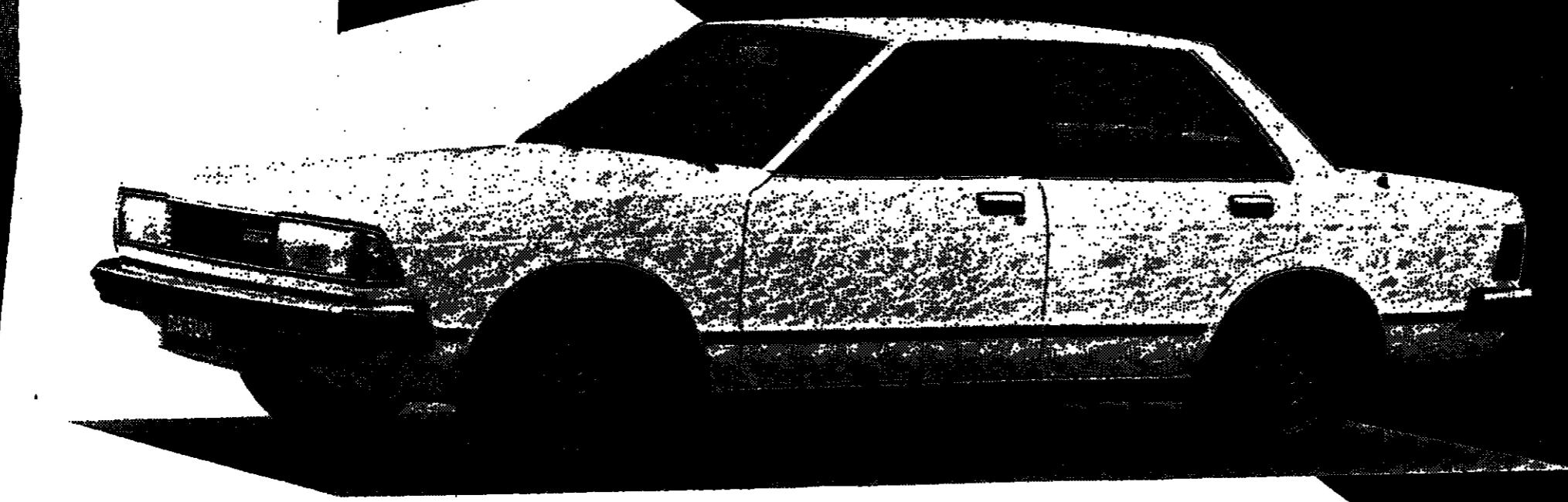
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U.S. coal strike hits output, exports

WASHINGTON, April 25 (AP) — U.S. coal production has been cut in half since the United States 160,000 United Mine Workers went on strike nearly a month ago, the Department of Energy has said.

About 8.5 million tons of coal were loaded during the week ending April 18, said Leonard Westerstrom, DOE coal specialist. Almost 18 million tons were loaded during the week of March when the strike began. Some coal companies and users stockpiled coal in anticipation of the strike, and there have been no major domestic shortages. Many large utility companies in the industry have a 90-120 day supply of coal.

UMW miners walked out when their old contract expired March 27 and the rank and file rejected a tentative contract settlement four days later. Talks with the Bituminous Coal Operators Association broke off last week, and both sides there were deep differences on key issues. DOE statistic indicate nationwide coal production was increasing before the strike began. Production during the first three months of 1981 was 213.2 million tons, up from 202 million during the corresponding period last year, the department said.

The walkout also has halted coal export activity at Newport, new Virginia, one of the United States' largest coal export loading facilities.

SAUDI ARABIA GOVERNMENT TENDERS

Authority	Description	No. of Tenders	Price SR	Closing Date
Directorate of Education in the Eastern Region	Provision of refined potable water of certain schools	—	2-5-81	
Department of Education at Al Ittihad	Construction of a wall for Abu- Raimes Bin Ait School	300	31-5-81	
Directorate of Municipal & Rural Affairs in the Eastern Region	Renovation of the department's building at Al-Ittihad. Maintenance and operation of the drinking water network at Qatif, Qadeeh, Almarjan and Al-Dakhly	200	31-5-81	—

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Commodity markets Ferrous metals rule firm

LONDON, April 25 (AP) — The commodity markets were overshadowed this week by a record-breaking upward run on the stock exchange after Imperial Chemical Industries (ICI), a leading British company, revealed a sales recovery in March.

This was seen as a further pointer toward the end of the recession. However, it had little effect on commodities. In view of the high cost of money, it will take more than the bottoming out of the recession to encourage industry to resume its purchasing on more than a hand-to-mouth basis.

On ferrous metals, especially copper, were mostly firmer but mainly under the influence of labor troubles. Tension in the Middle East also had some effect. Lead benefited from rumors of a producer's price rise. Tin was again sharply weaker following the recent disagreement within the International Tin Council.

Gold moved back temporarily over the \$500 mark because of U.S. demand, encouraged by the Lebanese situation and hopes, at one time, of lower interest rates. Sugar fell to one-year low before recovering partly. Grain turned up slightly on reports of the lifting of the U.S. embargo on sales to the Soviet Union, which had, however, been more or less discounted already. The oil market continued to weaken.

Tin: Easier: Before recovering slightly on light cover buying, tin prices were sharply down. Despite a steady Penang market, heavy selling in London took prices to their lowest level since late February following a rise in London warehouse stocks which encouraged stop-loss selling. The market became nervous later on announcement of an unexpected meeting between the world's leading three producers this weekend in Malaysia at Kuala Lumpur to discuss the

weak market. Stocks rose 525 tons at 6420 tons.

Copper: Firmer: Prices were helped by the strike vote at Chile's El Teniente mine and market talk of an impending meeting in Lima to discuss a possible national miners' strike.

Lead: Firmer: Lead followed the upward trend in copper, but was also boosted by the strong possibility of a strike by workers at Cominco, the big Canadian producer of lead and zinc.

Zinc: Firmer: In line with copper and the fear of a strike at Cominco. Rumors of another rise in U.S. zinc producer prices more than offset the statement by Preusag, the West German producer, that it was not raising its European producer prices.

Silver: Firmer: Despite a stronger sterling, silver firmed up with New York and gold before losing some ground on profit-taking. On the London metal exchange stocks were up by 100,000 ounces to 24,590,000 ounces.

Aluminum: Easier: Prospect of a large rise in the stock in London, the general lack of interest on this market and the pound's strength against the dollar depressed the price.

Chicago airport retains No. 1 spot

WASHINGTON, April 25 (AP) — Chicago's O'Hare International Airport retained its number-one spot last year as the world's busiest airport, while New York was the busiest city for air traffic, a private association of airport operators has said.

London, Tokyo, and Paris were among the top ten hub cities in the number of airline passengers handled.

New York, which included the three airports of Kennedy International, La Guardia, and Newark, was the leading hub city, or international gateway served by one or more airports, with a combined total of 53,487,662 passengers.

Kuwait lends Tunisia \$35m

KUWAIT, April 25 (AP) — Kuwait has granted two loans totaling \$35.5 million to Tunisia to finance development projects in the north African Arab state, it was officially announced Saturday.

A \$21-million loan was granted to help finance a highway project. This loan, which is to be repaid over a period of 20 years, carries a 3.5 per cent interest rate per annum.

The second loan of \$14.5 million is to finance an agricultural development project. It will be for 17 years, including a five-year period of grace, carrying a 5.5 per cent interest rate.

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Bangladesh poised for growth

NEW YORK, April 25 — The dominant influences on the performance of the Bangladeshi economy continue to be changes in foreign aid levels and the weather, according to the bulletin of *International Finance*. A shortfall in aid disbursements for fiscal 1981 (ending June 30) led to a sharp drop in reserves in calendar 1980.

The three-year IMF loan of 800 million SDRs announced in December resolved the country's balance-of-payments crisis temporarily, said the bulletin published this week.

However, questions remain concerning how long aid inflows, even coupled with IMF credit, will be sufficient to cover the balance-of-payments funding gap implied by the government's development objectives. Although the balance-of-payments problem has worsened the domestic economic situation has improved thanks to favorable growing conditions in the agricultural sector.

Food-grain production in fiscal 1981 is projected at a record 13.8 million tons, and, as a result real economic growth is expected to rebound to the 7.7-9.7 range.

Foreign Exchange Rates

Quoted at 5:00 P.M. Saturday				
	SAMA	Cash	Transfer	
Bahraini Dinar	8.60	8.93	—	
Belgian Franc (1,000)	95.00	100.00	—	
Canadian Dollar	2.82	3.20	—	
Deutsche Mark (100)	154.00	156.00	154.57	
Dutch Guilder (100)	139.00	141.00	138.50	
Egyptian Pound (100)	—	4.08	4.29	
Emirati Dirham (100)	91.40	91.65	—	
French Franc (100)	65.50	65.55	66.50	
Greek Drachma (1,000)	—	—	40.76	
Indian Rupee (100)	—	—	—	
Iranian Rial (100)	—	—	—	
Irqi Dinar	—	8.00	—	
Japanese Yen (10,000)	31.00	32.00	31.20	
Jordanian Dinar	10.35	10.28	—	
Kuwaiti Dinar	—	12.24	12.21	
Lebanese Lira (100)	84.00	83.15	—	
Moroccan Dirham (100)	70.00	68.90	—	
Pakistani Rupee (100)	—	34.00	—	
Philippines Peso (100)	—	44.00	—	
Pound Sterling	7.38	7.34	7.30	
Qatari Rial (100)	—	92.00	92.50	
Singapore Dollar (100)	—	—	159.00	
Spanish Peseta (1,000)	39.00	38.10	—	
Swiss Franc (100)	169.00	173.00	170.00	
Turkish Lira (1,000)	—	52.00	85.50	
U.S. Dollar	3.36	3.27	3.3630	
Yemeni Rial (10)	—	73.50	73.45	

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Financial Roundup

Fed policy boosts dollar

By J. H. Hammond

JEDDAH, April 25 — The United States supply figures did a turnaround this week. Compared to a \$4.8 billion increase revealed last week, Friday figures showed that M1-B plunged down by \$2.2 billion. The market took these figures as signaling that the Federal Reserve Board — the American central bank — will keep interest rates stable for the time being. Federal prime rate now stands at 16 per cent.

Basically, M1-A measures the money supply by looking at cash and checking accounts and is the narrowest definition now used for money supply figures. The plunge of \$2.2 billion indicated to most observers the continuing shift of money held by the public from the above-mentioned accounts to interest-bearing checking accounts or "new" accounts, as they are known in the United States. M1-A plus these interest bearing checking accounts are included in the definition of M1-B.

The exchange markets took these figures and the fact that the Fed Funds Rate was not reduced to mark up the dollar against most major currencies. Sterling fell below 2.14 for the second time in two weeks, but it

closed at 2.1635 in New York when markets in Europe detected some minute buying, possibly from the Bank of England. The mark was still at 2.1800 when the Swiss franc closed at nearly 2.0, the closing rate being around 1.9925. Yen continued its quiet improvement against the dollar and closed at 214.15. The French franc was basically weak.

In the local markets, riyal deposit rates opened at 14 1/4-14 1/2 per cent for the month and remained at that level throughout the day in quiet trading. The one-year JIBOR rate eased slightly to 13 1/4-1/2 per cent.

One-week money could still be found at per cent level, but dealing volumes were so large as to be able to test the market's "depth" in bringing up large sums. With the Hijra financial year coming to an end on May 4, market participants conserving all available riyals since it is known that ministry payments have stopped.

The exchanges, spot riyal was quoted at levels of 3.3595-05 by late afternoon some dealers covered open positions other currencies from Bahrain market.

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Reagan plan enjoys wide public support

NEW YORK, April 25 (AP) — Americans generally support President Ronald Reagan's plan to cut government spending and federal taxes, although a substantial number worry that his proposals may be too drastic, an Associated Press-National Broadcasting Company news poll says.

A somewhat smaller group said Reagan has not gone far enough in his proposal to stop more than \$48 billion out of a fiscal 1982 federal budget. Despite weeks of debate on Capitol Hill and the Reagan administration's efforts to sell his plan to the public, support for the president's economic proposals remains at about the same levels as measured in the late February AP-NBC news poll.

More than three out of five American support each of the three major plans of the Reagan proposals — cuts in federal spending,

Peking's job problem worsens

PEKING, April 25 (R) — A total of 40,000 young people in Peking failed to find work last year and will join 220,000 other youngsters due to come on the city's job market in 1981, according to Vice-Mayor Zhao Mengfei.

To help to absorb the surplus labor, young people should be given state aid to start their own collective or private enterprises, he told a session of the Peking People's Congress Friday.

As a further incentive — unthinkable during the 1966-76 cultural revolution — these enterprises would be able to set their own income levels without state control.

Foreign firms vying to market gas in S. Korea

SEOUL, April 25 (AP) — British Petroleum, the Royal Dutch-Shell group and Japan's Nissho Iwai are vying to market liquefied petroleum gas and liquefied natural gas in South Korea, the *Joong-Ang* daily reported Saturday.

The Seoul daily, quoting unidentified sources, said that these companies were attracted by good business prospects in Korea.

The paper said that BP has offered to join Korea's Daesung Energy in building a gas storage terminal with a promise to supply 50,000 tons of LPG annually from Indonesia or the Middle East.

Daesung was reported earlier to be planning to build such a storage terminal at the southern port of Samil at an estimated cost of 100 million. The paper noted that British Petroleum is on a British trade mission coming to Korea Sunday. It said that Royal Dutch-Shell and Nissho Iwai also were contacting the Seoul government and business interests to try to enter the Korean gas market. The Seoul government has recently announced a program to lessen the nation's dependence on imported oil by using more natural gas.

Vine workers' strike in Chile may snowball

RANCAGUA, Chile, April 25 (R) — A workers' strike at El Teniente copper mine threatened to spread to other Chilean industries as 15 unions declared a state of alert.

The strike which began Wednesday to back demands for a 10 per cent real rise in wages has paralysed the state-owned El Teniente mine and refinery which is Chile's second largest with a daily output of 800 tons of copper. Union sources said a wide section of Chilean workers, including bank clerks, farm laborers, railwaymen and state airline employees were in permanent assembly in support of the strikers.

The El Teniente strike is regarded as a test case for new two-year labor contracts due to be negotiated shortly at other state-owned copper mines, including the giant Chuquicamata mine. El Teniente management has offered workers two per cent real increase in wages. Friday night a representative said the 10 per cent demand could not be met because of falling copper prices on the international market.

BRIEFS

BRUSSELS, (R) — World crude steel production was down 5.2 per cent in the first quarter of this year, compared to the same period last year, despite an 11.5 per cent rise in February to March. According to the International Iron and Steel Institute (IISI) the production was 113.5 million tons for the first three months of this year.

LUSAKA, (AFP) — Zambia has refused to pay consultancy fees claimed by British national Joel Constantine Barnett for negotiating the equivalent of £200 million to finance a major food program for the country. The Jamaican-born financier was in jail in Lusaka for more than four months in connection with an alleged attempt to cover up a scandal over financing of the program.

VIENNA, (AFP) — The committee of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) responsible for natural gas prices, met here this week to examine prices in the state of the market, it was learnt here.

WASHINGTON, (AFP) — U.S. car makers will face cash flow problem over the next few years, coming up short \$12,000 million, commerce Secretary Malcolm Baldrige has said. He also said Friday that the car makers will possibly the United Auto Workers Union will take a position this week on concessions they will make in exchange for voluntary limit on Japanese car imports.

FRANKFURT, (AFP) — The West German textile industry saw orders fall by eight per cent in the first two months of the year the textile Federation here has reported. Output was 15 per cent down on the same period a year earlier and exports fell by 0.3 per cent, while imports rose by 1.9 per cent.

More U.S. oil firms report fall in profits

NEW YORK, April 25 (AP) — America's oil companies are feeling the pinch of competition, and profits for all but a few are down significantly.

Conoco Inc. and Marathon Oil Co. released first-quarter earnings reports Friday showing overall profits that were lower than a year ago and announcing losses on refining and marketing operations. Only a few companies with relatively small refining and large production operations, such as Standard Oil Co. (Ohio) and Getty Oil Corp., have reported first-quarter profit increases. Exxon Corp. and Mobil Corp. were among the companies that posted declines.

Conoco, the nation's ninth-largest oil company said it earned \$250.9 million in the first three months this year, down 23.6 per cent from \$328.6 million in the same period of 1980. Revenues rose to \$5.4 billion in the latest quarter from \$4.3 billion a year ago.

Marathon, ranked 17th among the nation's oil producers, said its profits dropped 49.8 per cent to \$69.8 million from \$139.1 million a year earlier. Revenues rose to \$2.27 billion in the 1980 period.

Brokerage houses prime target for mergers

NEW YORK, April 25 (AP) — Traditions hard on Wall Street, but a long-standing one is passing into history this weekend. As they have done for decades, securities-industry executives are gathering for their annual spring convention.

For the first time since 1931, however, the Securities Industry Association meeting won't be held at the opulent Greenbrier resort in White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia — the same spot where 31 of the former hostages in Iran gathered for a combined holiday-counseling session a couple of weeks ago.

Instead, the SIA, seeking a "more accessible location," opted for Bermuda's Southampton Princess Hotel. In addition to the new setting, the Wall Streeters will have some other changes to contemplate between semiannual sessions, committee meetings and tennis tournaments.

In the past month, their industry has suddenly emerged as a prime target for takeovers by other types of financial companies. Bache Group, parent company of the eighth-largest brokerage house, is being acquired by Prudential Insurance Co. and Shearson Loeb Rhoades, second only to Merrill Lynch in total capital, has agreed to merge with American Express Co. The two deals accelerated

a trend that has been developing for some time — the breaking down of the old, rigid barriers that separated various segments of the financial world.

Commercial banks, savings institutions, insurance companies, real estate brokers and stockbrokers, each had their own, separate domain. But more and more in recent years they have been invading each other's turf, amid talk of evolving "financial department stores." Money-market funds brought check-writing into the securities business. Merrill Lynch took things a big step further with its cash management account, a sort of hybrid stock-and-bond, money fund and credit-card account that has attracted upward of 200,000 people.

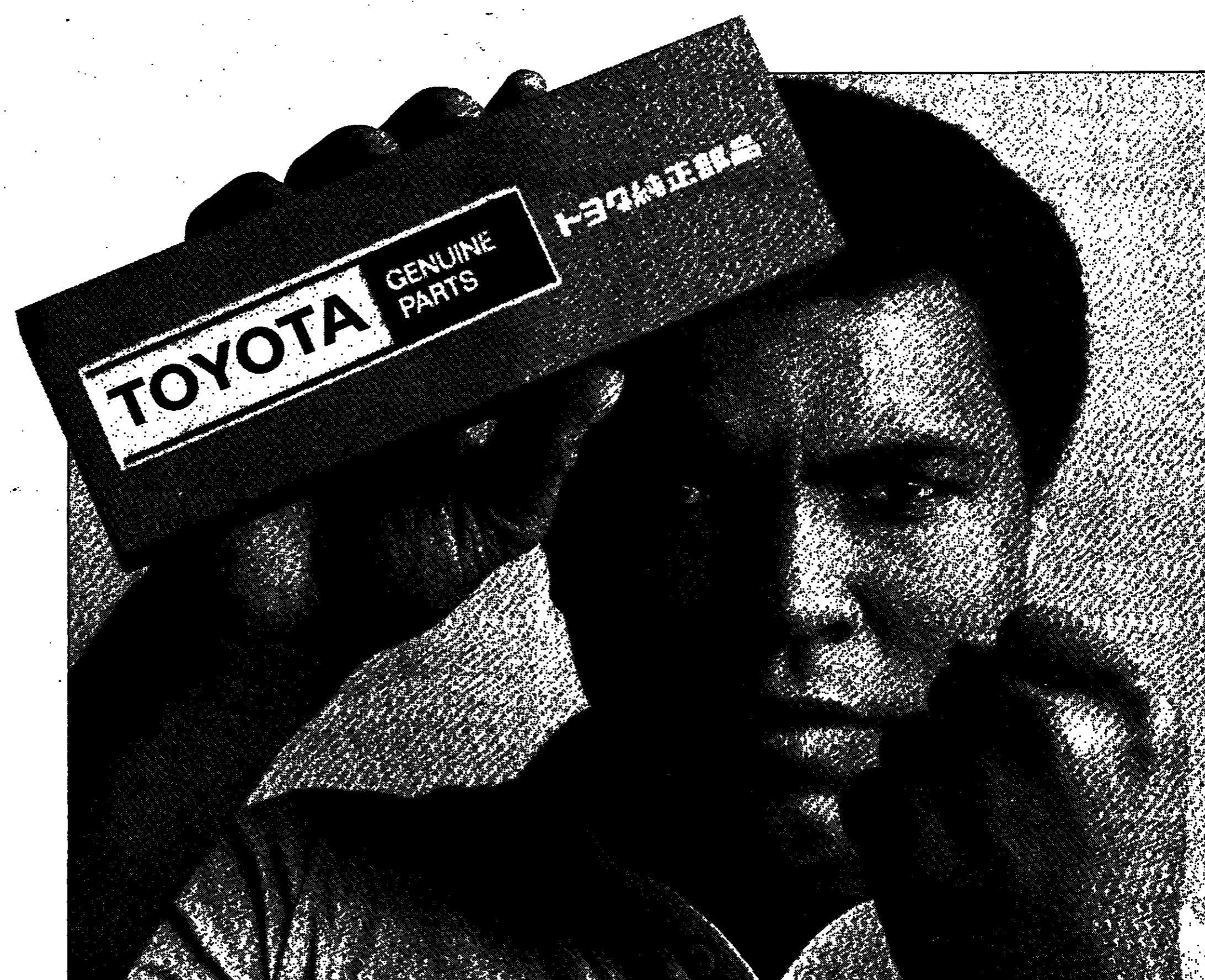
The idea of creating a similar account, in fact, was evidently the seed that eventually grew into the Shearson-American Express merger plan. As news of the deal broke, the shares of most other publicly-owned brokers shot upward. If Bache and Shearson could be takeover targets, the reasoning went, so might E.F. Hutton or Dean Witter Reynolds or Paine Webber.

The rest of the stock market had a strong week as well. The Dow Jones average of 30 industrials climbed 14.77 to 1,020.35, an eighth-year high and only about 30 points shy

of its all-time peak of 1,051.70, reached Jan. 11, 1973. Big Board volume averaged 59.23 million shares a day, against 51.80 million the week before. Will the street indeed see some further merger bids from outside its ranks? "I think it will, somewhere down the road," said Perrin Long, an analyst at Lipper Analytical Services who follows the securities industry.

At the big insurance companies which haven't yet made an acquisition move, "I'm sure the financial people are doing a lot of homework," Long said. However, he said, most brokerage firms are unlikely subjects for hostile takeovers like the surprise tender offers that have occurred in some other industries. The primary assets of a brokerage house are its people and its customer base, he noted.

Long also pointed out that there are relatively few Wall Street firms with sales forces large enough to make them attractive to a buyer such as an insurance company. Still, he said, the marriage plans of Shearson and American Express are clearly an important development. "Putting the two together will create a broadly based financial services company. I don't think you can quantify yet exactly what the impact will be, but it will have an impact, on Merrill Lynch and everyone else."



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Ipswich keeps in the hunt

Aston Villa brightens chances

LONDON, April 25 (R) — Aston Villa inched a step closer to winning the English Soccer Championship for the first time in 71 years by beating Middlesbrough 3-0 Saturday.

Ipswich kept alive their slim hopes of piping Villa with a 1-0 home win over Manchester City. But the odds are still heavily stacked against them.

Villa hold a four-point lead over their nearest challengers and need only one point from their final match away to Arsenal to take the title. Ipswich have two matches left-away to Middlesbrough and home to Southampton.

Villa tore into Middlesbrough from the opening whistle, Gary Shaw easing the tension with his 20th goal of the season midway through the first half. Peter Withe headed the second soon after halftime and Allan Evans put the result beyond doubt with a third. 10 minutes from the end.

Ipswich whose League form has been disappointing in the final weeks of the season, were again indebted to central defender Terry Butcher for their win Saturday. Butcher, whose goal against West Germans

Cologne on Wednesday helped Ipswich into the final of the European Football Union (UEFA) Cup, scored in the 51st minute to avenge Ipswich's Football Association (F.A.) Cup semifinal defeat by City.

European champions Nottingham Forest and Arsenal improved their chances of winning a place in next season's UEFA Cup with away wins Saturday, but Southampton's 1-0 defeat at Coventry seriously dented their hopes of competing in Europe.

Forest had a comfortable 3-1 win over bottom club Crystal Palace, their goals coming from Stuart Gray, Wallace and Norwegian international Jan Einer Aas.

But Arsenal had to come from behind to earn their two points against Wolverhampton, Republic of Ireland international Frank Stapleton got the winner in the 70th minute.

Scotland's Joe Jordan earned Manchester United their seventh successive victory by scoring the only goal of their home game with Norwich. His back heeled the ball over the line for his 15th goal of the season.

The dogfight to avoid relegation is far from

over. While Coventry were easing their way to safety with victory over Southampton, Sunderland, Everton and Wolverhampton all lost at home.

Sunderland's defeat was to fellow strugglers Brighton, who won with a goal in the final seconds by Gary Williams. Everton's 1-0 defeat by Stoke was watched by the lowest crowd for more than 40 years.

In Scotland the Celtic team were presented with the Premier League Trophy before their home match against Kilmarnock. But there was no champagne soccer from the champions as they labored to a 1-1 draw against the bottom club.

Davie Provan gave Celtic a 19th minute lead against his old club but the expected flood of goals did not materialize. Most of the enterprising play came from Kilmarnock, who equalized in the second half through Ken Eadie.

Deposed champions Aberdeen were held to a goalless draw away to Dundee United and third-place Rangers struggled to a 1-1 draw with Glasgow rivals Partick Thistle.

Soccer Results

English Division One		Division Three		Division One		Standings	
Aston Villa	3	Middlesbrough	0	Barnsley	0	Aston Villa	41 26 8 7 72 38 60
Coventry	1	Nottingham Forest	3	Brentford	1	Arsenal	41 23 10 7 74 38 56
Crystal Palace	0	Stoke	1	Carlisle	2	West Bromwich	41 18 15 8 59 45 51
Everton	0	Manchester City	1	Chesterfield	versus Exeter postponed	Southampton	41 19 11 10 56 40 49
Ipswich	1	Leeds	2	Gillingham	2	Manchester United	41 19 10 12 73 54 48
Leds Versus West Bromwich postponed	1	Birmingham	1	Hull	1	Leicester	42 15 18 9 51 36 47
Leicester	1	Nottingham	2	Newport	1	Swindon	39 12 17 9 50 36 47
Manchester United	1	Brighton	2	Portsmouth	1	Wolverhampton	40 15 18 9 50 36 47
Sunderland	1	Liverpool	1	Huddersfield	2	Stoke	40 17 9 14 39 45 43
Tottenham	1	Arsenal	1	Walsall	1	Wolverhampton	41 11 18 12 48 38 40
Wolverhampton	1	Blackburn	1	Scots Freezer Division	2	Stoke	41 11 18 12 48 38 40
		Brentford	1	Aldershot	0	Wolverhampton	41 10 16 55 57 36
		Brighton	1	Carlisle	1	Nottingham	41 13 11 10 50 37 47
		Cardiff	0	St. Mirren	0	Middlesbrough	40 15 5 20 50 38 35
		Luton	2	Dartford	0	Coventry	41 13 9 19 47 57 35
		Not. County	1	Dumbarton	2	Everton	40 13 8 19 54 57 34
		Queens Park Rangers	3	East Stirlings	0	Sheffield	41 13 7 21 47 52 35
		Spurs	0	Falkirk	1	Brighton	41 13 7 21 47 52 35
		Wrexham	1	Hamilton	4	Wolverhampton	39 12 8 19 40 52 32
				Motherwell	1	Leicester	41 12 6 29 46 53 30
				St. Johnstone	1	Crystal Palace	41 6 6 29 46 52 18
Division Two		Division Three		Division One		Standings	
Blackburn	3	Newcastle	0	Aldershot	1	Leeds	40 17 9 14 39 45 43
Brent Crc	1	Leeds	1	Dundee United	0	Stoke	41 11 18 12 48 38 40
Gimber	0	Cardiff	1	Parc	1	Wolverhampton	41 10 16 55 57 36
Luton	1	Oldham	2	St. Mirren	0	Nottingham	41 13 11 10 50 37 47
Not. County	1	Watford	0	Dartford	0	Middlesbrough	40 15 5 20 50 38 35
Queens Park Rangers	3	Cambridge	0	Dumbarton	2	Coventry	41 13 9 19 47 57 35
Spurs	0	Cheltenham	1	East Stirlings	0	Everton	40 13 8 19 54 57 34
Wrexham	1	Bristol Rovers	1	Falkirk	1	Sheffield	41 13 7 21 47 52 35
				Hamilton	4	Brighton	41 13 7 21 47 52 35
				Motherwell	1	Wolverhampton	39 12 8 19 40 52 32
				St. Johnstone	1	Leicester	41 12 6 29 46 53 30
Sheffield Wednesday versus West Ham postponed		Division Three		Division One		Standings	
Daily versus Preston postponed		Division Three		Division One		Standings	

Kuwait gives Malaysia a thrashing

KUWAIT, April 25 (AP) — Kuwait beat Malaysia 4-0 in a World Cup Asian Group Three qualifying match here Saturday. Half-time score was 2-0.

It was largely a one-sided game, with the Kuwaitis dominating the field and the Malaysians running aimlessly for the ball.

The Kuwaitis were so confident of victory that they resorted to muscle-flexing tactics amid the sound drums by fans.

The Malaysians at one point became so nervous that their captain, Sorgen En, chided the Kuwaiti wing Mahmud Fleiteh. The Singapore referee had to issue a stern warning to the two men when they were engaged in a fistfight.

The Kuwaitis scored their first goal in the first minute, and then in the 24th. After the

change of ends they added two more in the 45th minute and in the 59th.

In Auckland, New Zealand and Australia drew 3-3 in a World Cup Soccer qualifying match. Grant Turner, Steve Summer (2) scored for Kiwi while Eddie Krnicic (2) and netted for Australia.

Meanwhile, Vidal Fernandez scored with 7:58 remaining Friday night, giving the California Surf a 2-1 North American Soccer League victory over the Seattle Sounders. Seattle's Ian Bridge had died the game at 1-1 with exactly nine minutes to play but Fernandez struck 1:02 later to put the Surf ahead again. California now has a 2-8 record while the Sounders are 3-2.

The Surf had taken a 1-0 lead at 35:34 when Laurie Abrams kicked in his third

goal of the season. The Surf outshot the Sounders 14-11.

A crowd of 7,698 watched the game at Anaheim Stadium.

Dutch relegated

GOTEBORG, April 25 (AFP) — West Germany beat the Netherlands 12-6 in the final round of the competition for fifth to eighth places in the World Ice Hockey Championships here Saturday. Period scores were 2-2, 3-1, 7-3.

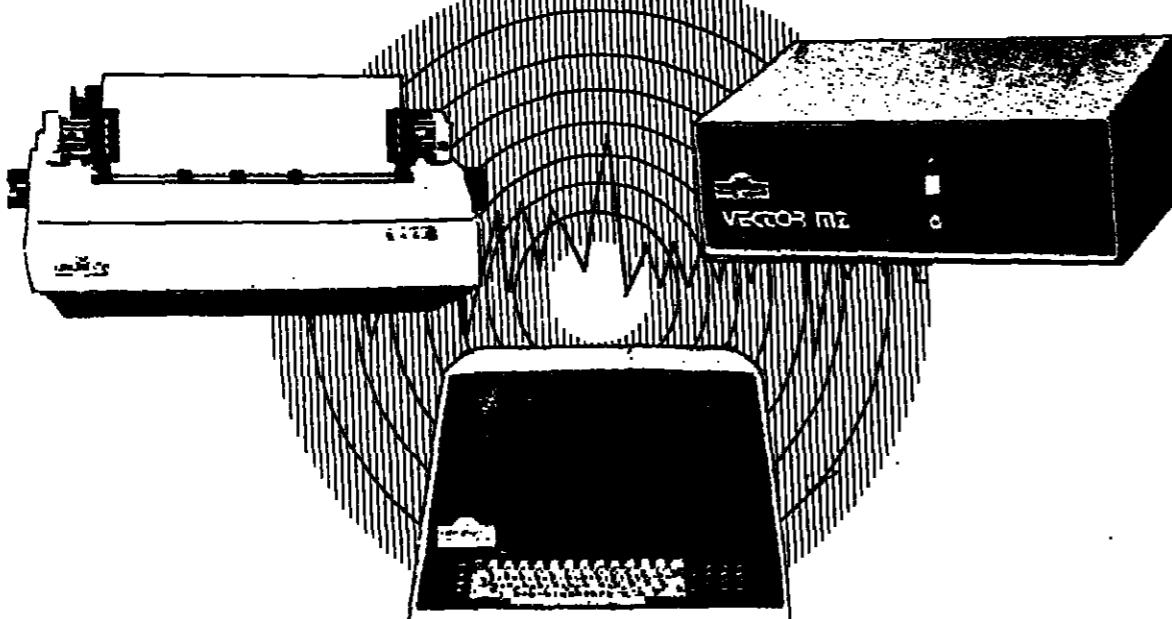
Their defeat means the end of the road for the Netherlands who, after six losses and without a single point, finished last in the championships and are relegated to Group "B".

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Zapata keeps WBC title

SAN FRANCISCO, April 25 (AP) — Hilario Zapata may not have a "big punch," but he has proved once again that with his consummate boxing skills, he doesn't need one.

The 22-year-old Panamanian easily outboxed challenger Rudy Crawford Friday night to retain his World Boxing Council Junior flyweight championship. And at the end of the 15-round fight at the Cow Palace, Zapata looked as fresh as a daisy.

"I thought I was getting stronger in the end and he was getting weaker," the champion said following the unanimous victory, his fifth successful title defense.

In improving his record to 17-1 (seven victories by knockout), the southpaw from Panama City effectively nullified the punching power of Crawford, a 24-year-old from Managua, Nicaragua, who came into the fight with five straight knockouts behind him.

Crawford admitted that Zapata's 3½-inch

height advantage bothered him, and it was obvious that the champion's 4-inch (10 cm) reach advantage made a difference. Both fighters weighed just under the 108-pound limit.

Zapata said he expected more pressure from Crawford, a counter-puncher who likes to work inside, adding "I was surprised he ran away so much."

Crawford, now 20-3-2, said he tried to put pressure on Zapata, "but he was very elastic, he moved around fast and got away easily."

Zapata sent Crawford to one knee in the sixth round with a solid left lead for the only knockout of the fight. It was an interchange of punches, the champion said, "and I don't know which punch knocked him down. I tried to finish him off, but the referee got between us."

Crawford, however, said it was a slip, not a knockout. "I just lost my balance," he said.

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Rockets pip Kansas City

Julius Erving helps 76ers forge ahead

PHILADELPHIA, April 25 (AP) — Julius Erving scored 22 points and helped contain Boston star Larry Bird with a brilliant defensive effort to lead the Philadelphia 76ers to a 110-100 victory over the Celtics Friday night and a 2-1 lead in the National Basketball Association Eastern Conference playoff finals.

Bird had scored 67 points in the first two games of the series, but although he led the Celtics with 22 points, he was unable to dominate play as he had in the earlier games.

The fourth game of the best-of-seven series will be played here Sunday afternoon before the series returns to Boston for game five Wednesday night.

The lead changed hands five times in the early going before Philadelphia pulled away with 11 straight points for a 21-11 advantage with 4:25 to go in the first period. Erving,

Maurice Cheeks and Hollins hit jumpers, Hollins scored on a fast-break layup and Bobby Jones capped the two-minute flurry with a three-unit play.

Boston, which missed nine of its first 11 shots, closed within five before an 8-2 spurt in the final two minutes gave the 76ers a 31-22 lead after the opening period. Philadelphia stretched the margin to as many as 18 points in the second quarter and led 62-47 at halftime.

Boston made a brief run in the third quarter, pulling within nine 4:28 and despite exerting pressure trailed right through there after.

In Houston, Houston guard Calvin Murphy broke out of a two games shooting slump with 23 points and Robert Reid helped stay off a late Kansas City rally to lead the Rockets to a 92-88 victory and a 2-1 lead in the Western Conference playoff series.

Phillies humble Cubs

NEW YORK, April 25 (AP) — The Philadelphia Phillies, with the help of Mike Schmidt's two-run homer, beat Chicago 6-4 Friday, handing the staggering Cubs their 10th straight loss.

Schmidt's blast, his fourth of the season, capped a four-run Phillies' fifth inning against Rick Reuschel, 0-3, as Philadelphia pinned the Cubs with their 11th loss in 12 games this season. Bae McBride singled in the first two runs in the big inning.

Bill Buckner smashed a three-run homer for the Cubs in the bottom of the fifth off Steve Carlton, 0-3. Carlton struck out five in seven innings, giving him 2,997 career strikeouts. Only five pitchers in baseball history have struck out 3,000 batters.

Meanwhile, Greg Luzinski, former Phillies slugger, cracked a homer in the 10th inning, giving the Chicago White Sox a 3-2 victory over the Detroit Tigers.

Luzinski's second homer of the year came off Jack Morris 1-2, who went the distance for Detroit. Lamarr Hoyt, 3-0, was the winner in relief.

Standings

National League			
	W	L	PCT.
Montreal	8	2	.800
St. Louis	7	2	.778
Philadelphia	8	5	.615
New York	4	4	.500
Pittsburgh	4	4	.500
Chicago	1	11	.083
West			
Los Angeles	11	3	.786
Atlanta	8	5	.615
Cincinnati	7	6	.538
San Diego	6	9	.400
San Francisco	5	10	.333
Houston	3	11	.214

Pinch hitter Glenn Adams and Rob Wilfong smacked consecutive run-scoring doubles in the seventh inning, following a two-base error by California third baseman Butch Hobson with two out, lifting the Minnesota Twins to a 7-5 triumph over the Angels.

Gary Ward hit a solo homer and Mickey Hatcher homered with two on for the twins, who overcame a 4-0 first-inning deficit. Fred Lynn homered for the Angels.

Three games were rained out — Texas at Cleveland in the American League, and New York at Montreal and St. Louis at Pittsburgh in the National League.

In an American League night game, Ben Oglivie and Ted Simons slammed three-run homers to power the Milwaukee Brewers to a 6-1 victory over the Kansas City Royals. Kansas City's lone run came on a homer by Willie Aikens.

Graig Nettles' fourth home run of the season, a solo shot in the seventh inning, was the big blow in the New York Yankees' 4-2 victory over the Toronto Blue Jays, while Mike Norris buried a five-hitter, weathering two ninth-inning home runs, as Oakland beat Seattle Mariners 6-2.

In the NL, Cincinnati's Frank Pastore scattered four hits, two of them infield singles, to hurl the Reds past the slumping Houston Astros 5-0 while Ruppert Jones singled home Gene Richards, a highlighting three-run ninth inning rally that gave the San Diego Padres a come-from-behind 6-5 victory over the Los Angeles Dodgers.

Dale Murphy's double and a run-scoring single by Bruce Benedict in the seventh inning snapped a 1-1 tie and Atlanta went on to a 7-1 victory over the San Francisco Giants, the Braves' fifth win in a row.

seventh-seeded Brian Gottfried

Lendl, a 21-year-old from Czechoslovakia, faces Teacher in the semis and Solomon and Tanner will battle for the other spot in Sunday's finals, which will carry a \$60,000 winner's prize.

Meanwhile, top seed Chris Evert Lloyd disposed of No. 5 Pam Shriver 6-3, 6-1 Friday night to gain a semifinal berth in the \$250,000 Murjani Women's Tennis Association Championships.

No. 2 seed Martina Navratilova dropped the opening set but regained her composure to down West German's Sylvia Hanika 4-6, 6-1, 6-1 in another quarterfinal match.

Lendl whips Stan Smith

LAS VEGAS, Nevada, April 25 (AP) — Top-seeded Ivan Lendl whipped Stan Smith 6-2, 6-2, and No. 2 Harold Solomon rolled to a 6-4, 6-2 victory over John Austin in Friday's quarterfinals of the \$340,000 Alan King-Caesars Palace men's Tennis Tournament.

In a tournament that has gone much to form, fourth-seeded Roscoe Tanner and No. 5 Brian Teacher also earned berths in Saturday's semifinals.

The only upset was a minor one, as Teacher ousted the No. 3 seed, Vitas Gerulaitis, 7-5, 6-4 in their match. Friday, Tanner, meanwhile, breezed to a 6-1, 6-4 triumph over

Lendl, a 21-year-old from Czechoslovakia, faces Teacher in the semis and Solomon and Tanner will battle for the other spot in Sunday's finals, which will carry a \$60,000 winner's prize.

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arabnews Sports

American League, East Division

By Cynthia Shanley

HOUSTON, April 25 — American League East teams went shopping in a big way last winter.

The New York Yankees purchased Dave Winfield, the young millionaire who carried a price tag that was almost as big as Reggie Jackson's vocal chords. The Milwaukee Brewers showed up at baseball's winter meetings and swapped for St. Louis' Ted Simmons, Rollie Fingers and Pete Vuckovich, the kind of steal the Cardinals used to get from Lou Brock.

Meanwhile, deep in the budget basement, the Baltimore Orioles waited for the blue light to flash, then rushed over to grab Jose Morales and Jim Dwyer.

And that, their reputation for being smart shoppers as opposed to stylish ones, is why the Orioles are likely, come October, to be playing baseball when the others are watching. That and their manager, the irrepressible Earl Weaver. And of course, pitching, always pitching.

Consider Steve Stone. Stone, the first of the Orioles rare ventures into the re-entry draft, was signed two years ago for \$200,000, dirt cheap in light of his 25-7 record, 3.23 ERA (earned run average) and Cy Young Award last season.

And Stone may not even be the Orioles' ace, that's how strong their pitching is. The Baltimore staff boasts three Cy Young winners — Stone, Mike Flanagan (16-13, 4.42) and Jim Flamer (16-10, 3.98) — and a fourth starter who may be better than all of them, Scott McGregor (20-8, 3.32). Tim Stoddard (26 saves) Tippy Martinez and Sammy Stewart provide a secure bullpen.

The pitchers get plenty of help. Baltimore set more single-season highs last season in runs scored (805), hits (1,523) and average

(.273). The Orioles are led at the plate by switch-hitter Ken Singleton (.304, 24 homers, 104 RBI) and Eddie Murray (.300, 32, 116), the fastest-rising star in baseball. Center fielder Al Bumbry (.318) set a team mark with 205 hits.

About the only question mark is third baseman Doug DeCinces' troubled back a sore spot for two years. But even if the back isn't back, the Orioles' arms will take up the slack.

The Brewers may have most potent lineup in baseball, and the addition of Fingers and Vuckovich bolsters the pitching staff — last year's Achilles heel. But it's not quite enough.

Certainly the Brewers stand ready should Baltimore falter. Paul Molitor (.304) has been switched from second base to center field to save his body for the batting order.

Ben Oglivie (.304, 41 homers) tied for the league lead in homers, and Gorman Thomas, the 1979 champ, added 38. And nobody ever hit .352 with 25 homers and 122 runs batted in, and went unnoticed — until first baseman Cecil Colper did it last year.

Simmons (.303, 21 homers, 98 RBI) gives Milwaukee the best catcher ever, maybe the best in the league. But he will

Doug Bird, Ron Davis, Mike Griffin, Andy McGaffigan, Dave Righetti, Brian Rydzek and Tom Underwood. That's two-thirds of the Yankee pitching staff (after Ron Guidry, Tom John and Rich Gossage, with no proven right-handed starter), and three-fourths of the reason Bronx Bombers, Winfield or not Winfield, are Middle-of-the-packers.

It doesn't help that nine of the non-pitchers will be well into their 30s by the time the season starts. Graig Nettles (.244), Bob Watson (.307) Lou Pinella (.287), Bobby Mercer (.269) and Reggie Jackson (.300, 41 homers, 111 RBI) are all great names, but so are Babe Ruth, Lou Gehrig, Joe DiMaggio and Yogi Berra — and look how old they are.

If Winfield provides even half of what he's being paid for, the Yankees will win 95 games. That should be good enough for third place and new manager Gene Michael's firing.

Leading the battle for fourth place will be the Tigers, in their put-up-or-shut-up year. After four seasons of rebuilding, all those bright young stars are approaching their prime age now, and they have to play like it. Shortstop Alan Trammell, catcher Lance Parrish, and Steve Kemp already have; now it's time for Lou Whitaker, Kirk Gibson and pitcher Pat Underwood to do the same.

Detroit's hitting is fine, with Champ Summers, Rick Peters and Al Cowens joining Kemp and Parrish. It is pitching that will make or break the Tigers. The staff has nothing but potential.

The Cleveland Indians look to be the best for fifth place. The Indians' biggest problem for years seems to be corrected, or at least improved.

(To be continued Monday with the Western Division)



WATCH OUT: Scott McGregor (left) and Eddie Murray, the rising star, the players who should see Baltimore Orioles sailing high.

have lots of work with that pitching staff. Last year, Milwaukee lost 27 games in which it had a lead in the final three innings, and even Fingers' 23 saves at San Diego won't erase all of those.

Moose Davis, despite his 16-15 record, was sixth in the American League with a 3.11 ERA. Other starters include Mike Caldwell (13-11, 4.04), Vuckovich (12-9, 43-41) and Jim Slaton.

If that doesn't sound impressive, try this:

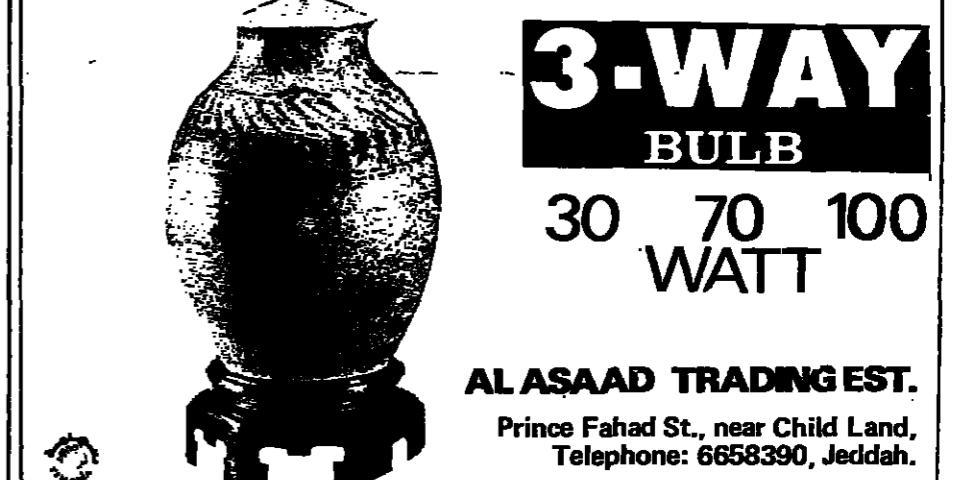
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تبتدئ ..

من تاريخ ١٥/٤/١٤٠١م حتى تاريخ ١٢/٤/١٤٠١م

(الموافق ١٩/٤/١٩٨١م) (الموافق ١٨/٤/١٩٨١م)

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أوالسيد / ثابت صحن قرنيت ..

أولت: صباحية من الساعة ٩:٣٠ حتى

ثانية: مسائية ٦:٣٠ - ٦:٠

وذلك على أرقام الهاتف التالية:

٦٦٥٢٧٥٢ / ٦٦٠٤٣١٥ / ٦٦٠٥١٥

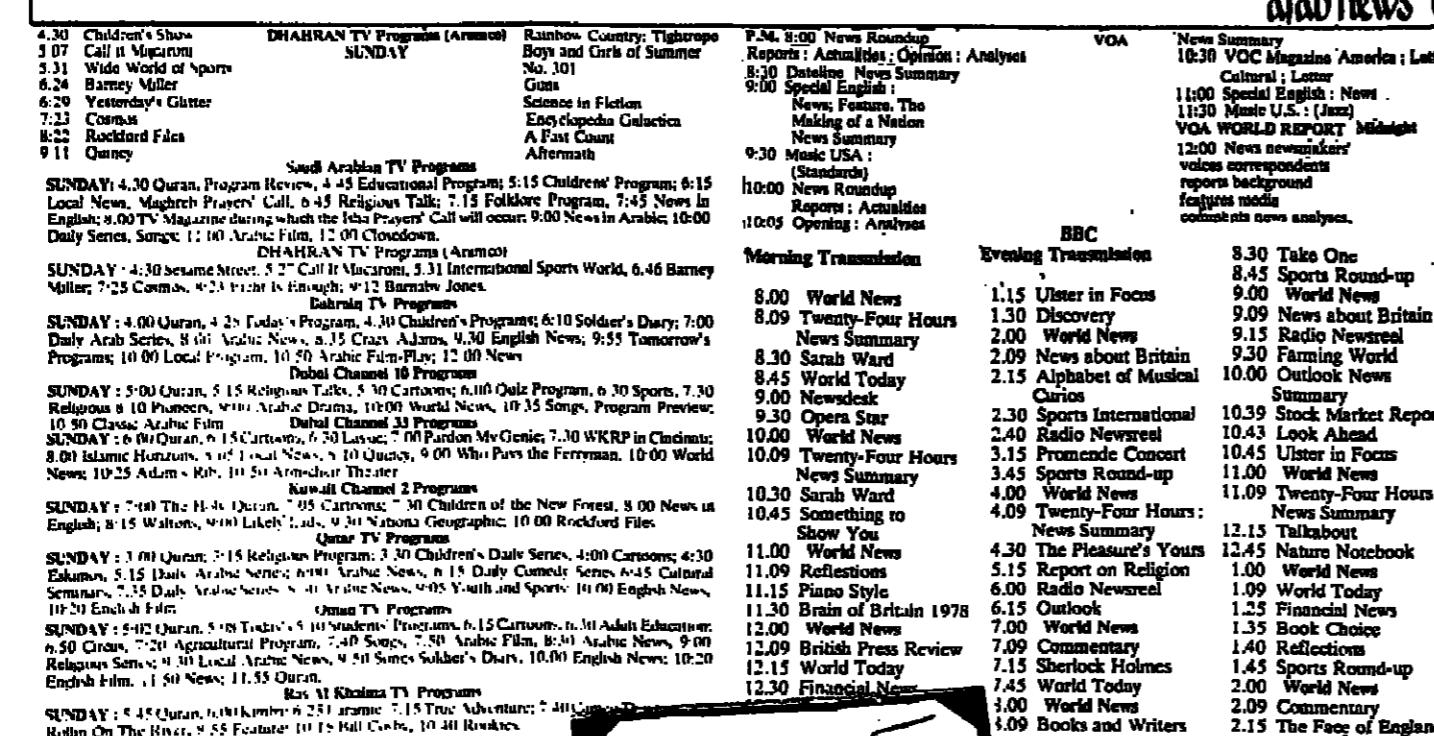
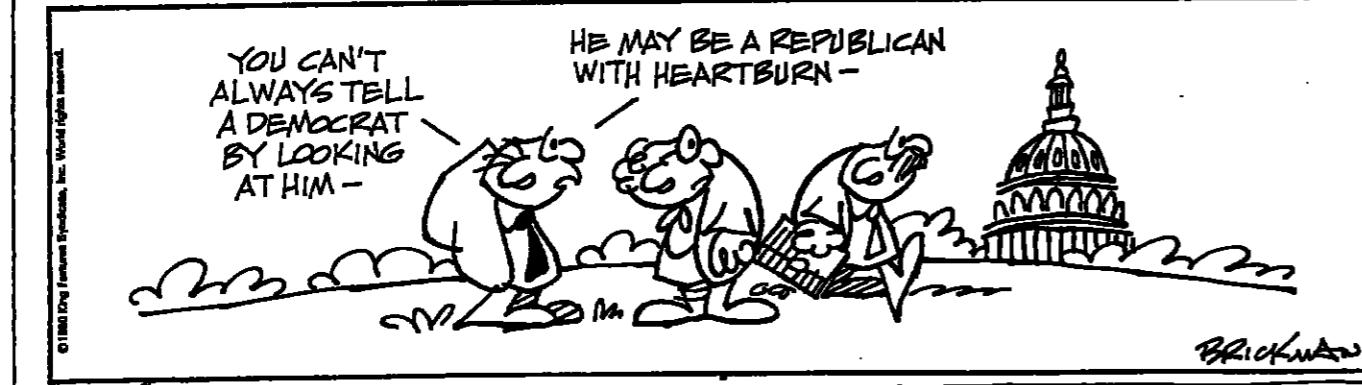
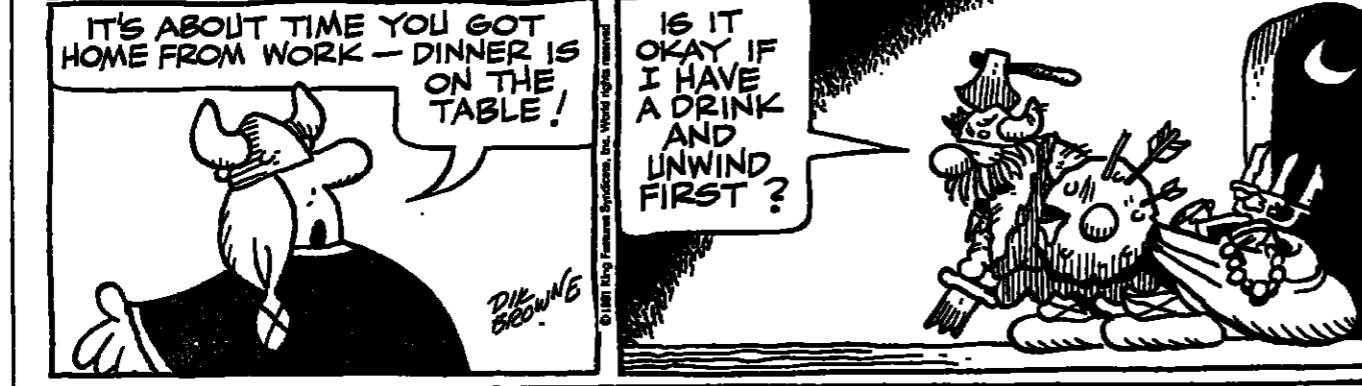
اللهم: أنت أعلم بآياتك بعد النافع والضار

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الطالب . وبالنافع ت



Contract Bridge ♦ B. Jay Becker

That Number 13 Again

North dealer.
East-West vulnerable.

NORTH		EAST	
♦ 10 5		♦ A 9 8 7 3	♦ 6
♦ Q 5 4 2		♦ 8 7 3	
♦ A J 9 3		♦ 8	
♦ K Q 4		♦ 10 8 6 2	
WEST		SOUTH	
♦ Q 10 8 5	♦ 8	♦ J 2	
♦ 9 3		♦ A K J 10 9	
		♦ K 7 4 2	
		♦ 7 5	

The bidding:

North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♥ 1 ♠
2 ♡ 2 ♦ 4 ♠

Opening lead — king of spades.

There are times when a declarer must conduct an investigation of all pertinent factors in order to give himself the best chance for the contract. Consider this case (because West had shown up with precisely a singleton heart and a doubleton club).

South could also tell from the bidding that East had started with either three or four spades. With at least twelve of East's cards in three suits thus accounted for, it followed that East could not have been dealt more than one diamond and that the double-finesse in diamonds was therefore sure to succeed.

South has lost the first three tricks and must now avoid the

loss of a diamond trick to make the contract. However, before tackling the problem of how to play the diamonds, he does all he possibly can to learn how the unseen cards in the various suits are divided.

Declarer starts by playing the A-K of trumps and then leads a trump to dummy's queen. South next makes the crucial play of ruffing the four of clubs. West discarding a spade on the third round of clubs. The count of the hand is now complete and South should know exactly how to play the diamonds without losing a trick in the suit. He cashes the king of diamonds, finesses the nine of diamonds, returns to his hand with a trump and then finesses the jack of diamonds.

The reason South can confidently double-finesse in diamonds is based on simple arithmetic. He learned during the play that East had started with three hearts and six clubs (because West had shown up with precisely a singleton heart and a doubleton club).

South commences the play by cashing the K-A of spades and then shifting to the nine of clubs at trick three. Dummy's queen loses to East's ace and back comes the jack of clubs to dummy's king.

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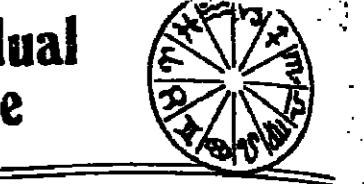
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Your Individual Horoscope

Frances Drake



FOR SUNDAY, APRIL 26, 1981

What kind of day will tomorrow be? To find out what the stars say, read the forecast given for your birth Sign.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to April 19)

Don't let impatience get the best of you. Social life brings you opportunity. Friends are helpful and partners are supportive.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20)

Changing your routine brings new life into an existing relationship. Don't be set in your ways. Be receptive to career opportunities.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21)

Be willing to forgive and forget. Evening hours bring a chance to mend fences with others. Social life offers new opportunities.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19)

Welcome the chance to make new friends. Thrill of career worries. The late evening brings favorable financial and career developments.

LEO (May 21 to June 20)

Begin new projects now. Avoid arguments over ideological questions. Romance blossoms. Good times make you consider a permanent commitment.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22)

Loved ones surprise you in pleasant ways. Real estate matters are favored. After dark, you'll enjoy home life and family projects.

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22)

New family projects should intrigue you. Avoid disputes about career matters. Late evening brings happy news and romance.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22)

Utilize creative energy. New work opportunities are in the offing. Evening hours are helpful.

PISCES (Feb. 19 to Mar. 20)

The afternoon accents social life. Later you'll want time to yourself for private pursuits. Finances should be on the upswing.

DUNAGIN'S PEOPLE

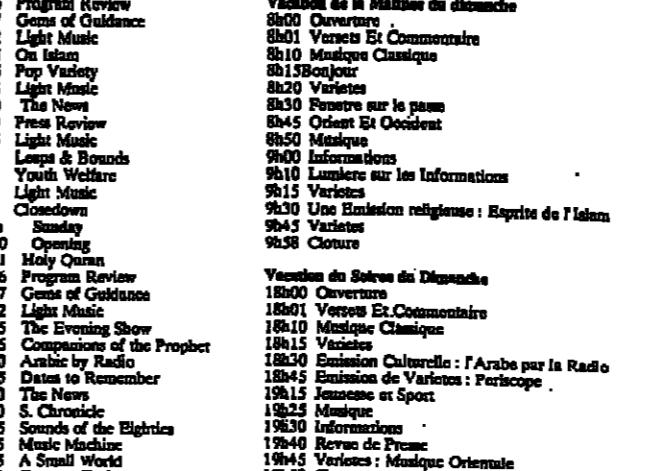


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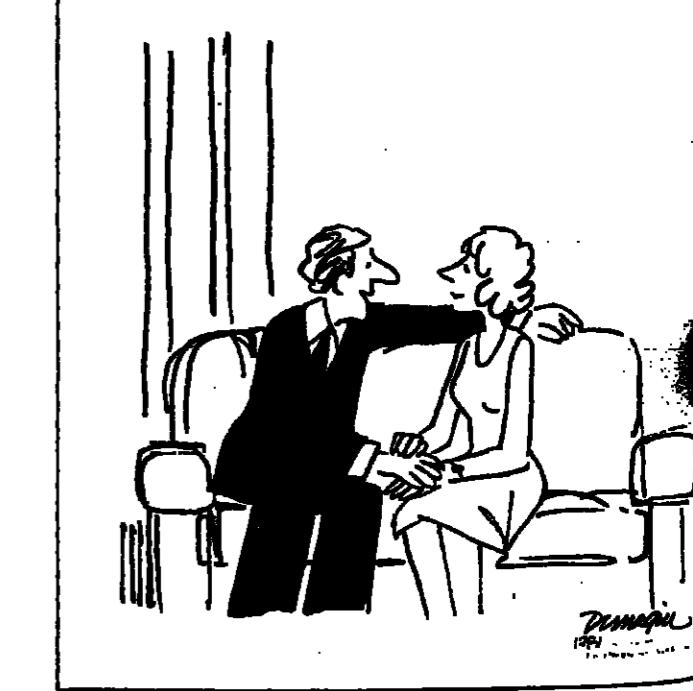
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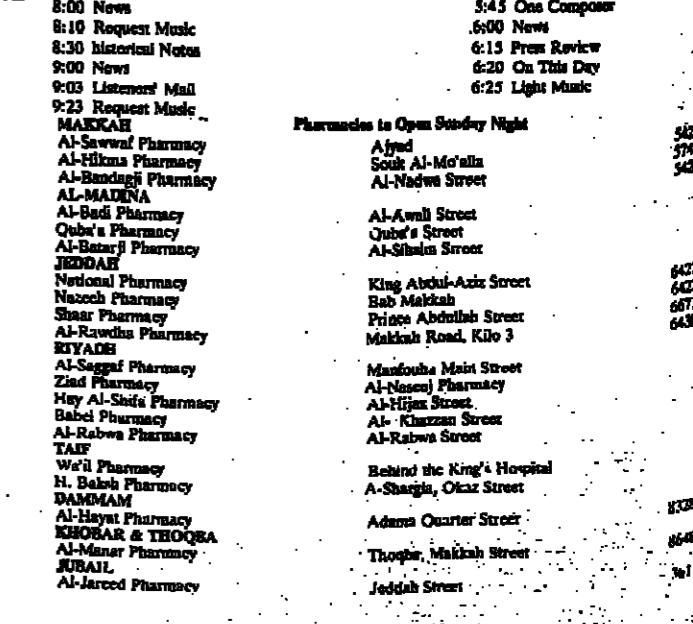
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Mr. Hener Camp has lost his French passport with the following particulars:—

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- (2) Address in passport: Alkhobar, P.O. Box 1247.
- (3) Present Address: Tel: 6317982 Telex No. 400273 Jeddah.

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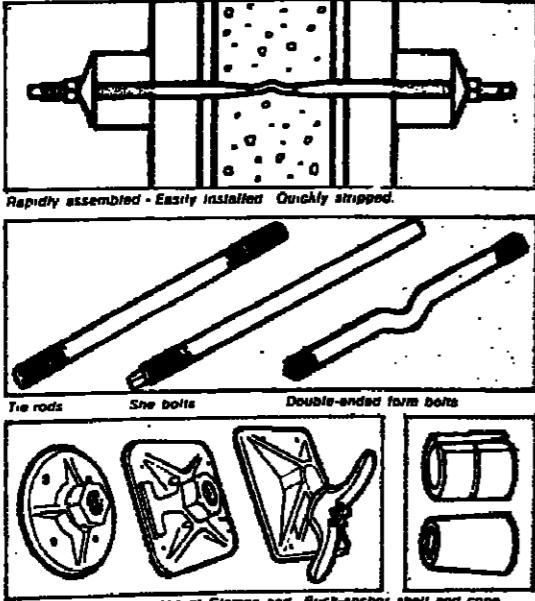
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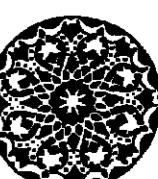
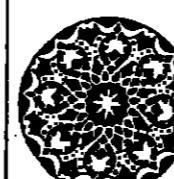
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PAGE 16

Started during embargo

U.S., Soviet Union resume talks on grain

WASHINGTON, April 25 (AP) — Even before U.S. President Ronald Reagan formally lifted the 16-month grain embargo against the Soviet Union, the administration was talking to the Russians about new grain purchases. Agriculture Secretary John R. Block said U.S. and Soviet officials were involved in "low-level consultations" on the prospect for new Russian grain purchases this year.

"They (the Russians) are in our building today, right now," Block said Friday before the commodity markets closed for the week and the president's action was official. "We're starting there, and we'll just have to see what will develop," Block said. "I cannot predict what the desires are of the Soviet Union."

In addition to anticipating new grain sales to Russia in the next few months, Block said he also expected negotiations to begin on a new long-term grain trade agreement to replace the five-year pact that expires Sept. 30.

Reagan's decision to lift the embargo followed months of pressure from farming interests in and out of government and arguments within his own cabinet. There were weeks of speculation that the end of the embargo was imminent, and the administration was warned that continuation of the partial trade ban would jeopardize its farm program in Congress.

The embargo was ordered by former President Jimmy Carter on Jan. 4, 1980 after Russian troops occupied Afghanistan. Although Reagan promised during his campaign to lift the embargo, he was persuaded by Secretary of State Alexander Haig that

such a move would signal weakness to the Soviet Union. Tensions along the Russian-Polish border this year emphasized the point.

But after three months in office, the president said Friday that was no longer the case. "I have determined that our position now cannot be mistaken: The United States, along with the vast majority of nations, has condemned and remains opposed to the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan and other aggressive acts around the world." "We will react strongly to acts of aggression wherever they

French stand on

PARIS, April 25 (Agencies) — The French government said Thursday that the lifting of the grain embargo against the Soviet Union, which would be followed by the Common Market, did not alter France's opposition to the Soviet Union's occupation of Afghanistan.

The government stresses that its attitude with regard to the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan remains unchanged, in particular, its (France's) refusal to accept the fait accompli in that country," a Foreign Ministry statement said.

Meanwhile, Agriculture Minister Pierre Mehaiguerie said the American decision to lift the embargo should remove opposition to France's proposed sale of 600,000 tons of wheat to the Soviet Union. The Common Market recently blocked French plans to sell the wheat.

In Tokyo, Chief Cabinet Secretary Kiichi Miyazawa said Saturday that the lifting of the embargo will have no immediate effect on Japan's own economic sanctions against

take place. There will never be a weakening of this resolve," Reagan said.

A top aide, who asked to remain unidentified, said Haig argued to the end that lifting the embargo would be premature. But the secretary of state said publicly he supported the decision and Block, who has fought for an end to the embargo since taking office, said both he and Haig "are agreed."

"While there were some signs that the embargo was painful to the Russians, there are also signs that it was even more painful for

Moscow remains

the Soviet Union. "Japan will make decisions (on sanctions) on a case-by-case basis and expects a fuller briefing at the scheduling Japan-U.S. summit meeting in Washington in early May," Miyazawa said.

An official of the Export-Import Bank of Japan said Reagan's decision has cleared "a negative factor" in the way of the Japanese trade credits to help finance Soviet projects, including construction of a natural gas pipeline linking Siberian deposits with West European countries.

In Canberra, the Australian government announced Saturday it had lifted its partial grain embargo against the Soviet Union.

In Peking, a television commentator said Saturday that the move was not likely to reduce tension between the two superpowers. In the only reaction from Peking so far to the decision taken by Reagan, the state television said the move would not "significantly" change tension in U.S.-Soviet relations.

American farmers," said Sen. David Durenberger of Minnesota. "President Reagan had the courage and wisdom to recognize that and to act appropriately."

But Democratic Sens. Henry Jackson of Washington and William Proxmire of Wisconsin called the move a "dangerous precedent" that sends the "wrong signal." Both said ending the embargo amounted to rewarding the Soviets for not intervening in Poland. Sen. Charles Mathias said the decision will be viewed by the world as "erratic behavior" because Soviet troops remain in Afghanistan.

The Soviet news agency Tass said the president's decision was prompted by the "serious economic loss" suffered by America, not Russia. The embargo, Tass said, "painfully hurt, above all, American farmers and presented the United States in an unfavorable light in front of the whole world as an unreliable trading partner."

Although the grain embargo is over, other steps taken after the Russian occupation of Afghanistan remain in place. These include restrictions on technology and trade deals, a reduced level of diplomatic contacts with Russian officials and a stall in U.S. action on arms agreements with the Soviet Union.

American taxpayers paid some \$3 billion in a government effort to keep surplus grain from flooding the domestic market and driving prices down. The Russians, while eventually able to import the grain they needed from other countries, did run into problems during the first six months of the sales ban.

To save dying Sands

Mediators reach prison

BELFAST, April 25 (Agencies) — Two mediators from the European Commission on Human Rights arrived at Northern Ireland's Maze prison Saturday to meet with dying hunger striker Bobby Sands in a frantic effort to save the life of the convicted Irish Republican guerrilla.

As the commissioners were slipped inside through a side entrance, about 50 Protestant demonstrators, waving union jacks and banners, stormed through a police cordon outside the prison and hammered on the gates shouting, "there have been no human rights for those murdered".

The commissioners arrived in Belfast following the 10th night of violence in this British-ruled province Friday when about 150 youths hurled stones and firebombs at police and hijacked two buses, a truck and a van. One civilian was taken to a hospital and three policemen were injured, none seriously.

The 27-year-old Sands, in the 56th day of his fast at the prison hospital, had agreed to meet the human rights commissioners but told relatives he had little hope they would accomplish anything. The mediation effort came as Roman Catholic extremists threatened new violence if Sands, who was recently elected to parliament, died and Protestant militants vowed reprisals that could spark "civil war".

Sands, who last week received the last rites of the Catholic church, was believed to be in danger of dying over the weekend. He is serving a 14-year term for gun law violations stemming from Irish Republican Army

Over tax reforms

Cabinet crisis looms large in Sweden

STOCKHOLM, April 25 (AP) — Sweden has been thrown into an unexpected government crisis when the Conservatives balked at a new tax reform proposal which their two coalition partners had accepted in principle in a deal with the Social Democratic opposition.

After months of haggling, Prime Minister Thorbjorn Falldin and ex-Prime Minister Olof Palme's Social Democratic opposition reached a tentative agreement early Friday on the tricky question of a wide-ranging tax reform. Falldin's Center Party and small Liberal coalition partner agreed with the Socialists, but Economy Minister Gosta Bohman's Conservatives did not.

Liberal Budget Minister Rolf Wiktor and Social Democratic "shadow cabinet" Finance Minister Kjell-Olof Feldt were the principal engineers of the plan, the final points of which were hammered out in the small hours of Friday morning. The contents of the tax reform agreed on were not made public.

The Conservative rejection of the plan was

Major earthquake jolts

GOLDEN, Colorado, April 25 (AP) — A major earthquake shook the Vanuatu Islands region of the south Pacific Saturday morning, the U.S. Geological Survey reported. The survey's national earthquake information center said the quake was preliminarily measured at a magnitude of 7.0 on the Richter Scale and occurred at 8:50 a.m. Saturday (2150 GMT Friday).

Geological Survey scientists said the quake was centered about 1,200 miles northeast of Brisbane, Australia, because the area is so sparsely populated, no casualties or reports of damages were expected, the spokeswoman said. The Vanuatu Islands, formerly known as the New Hebrides Islands, are in geologically active area that experiences numerous

Blast kills 7 Iranians

TEHRAN, April 25 (R) — A powerful bomb exploded in the western Iranian city of Kermanshah Saturday, killing seven persons and seriously wounding 35, the official Pars news agency reported. The device went off in a car at the city's bus station, Pars said. The seven dead were all in the car. Pars said 20 of the injured had to undergo surgery.

A spokesman for the city governor's office described the bomb as very powerful. No one had been arrested so far in connection with the blast, he said. It was the second bomb explosion in Iran in four days. An explosive device in a minibus parked close to the Tehran residence of Ayatollah Khomeini blew up Wednesday, killing two passers-by.

On the war front, Iran said its troops killed or wounded 400 Iraqis Friday on the fourth day of a stepped-up operation. Pars said the Iraqi casualties were incurred near the border town of Zahab in Kermanshah province. It gave no details of Iranian casualties. The Pars report brought the total number of Iraqis killed or wounded in the past four days in Kermanshah province alone to over 1,200 according to Iranian figures.

Meanwhile, the Iraqi News Agency said Iraqi forces killed 120 Iranians and lost 14 men in fighting in 24 hours. Quoting a military communiqué, it said Iraqi planes scored direct hits in four raids on Iranian concentrations in the Sare Pole Zahab area, in west Iran, Friday and returned safely to base. An Iranian aircraft was shot down by ground fire in the Mehran area, in the central sector, the communiqué said.

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